



# The Orchidist

## SFOS July 17th 2019 Program

**O**ur speaker for the month of July is my friend Melida Demorizi. She is going to talk to us about how she grows her vandas outdoors in Dade County.

Melida is very involved with the Orchid Society of Coral Gables, and the Pan American Orchid Society. You will find her helping customers when R F Orchids has one of their sales events.

You will also find her in Norman's Orchids booth at both the Tamiami and Redland Orchid Festivals.

She conducts beginners, intermediate and advanced orchid culture classes at Fairchild Gardens' Orchid Festival in March.

If you do Facebook, you have seen her postings of her awarded plants. And her many, many blooming vandas. She runs the fb group 'I Love My Outdoor Orchids'.

This is your opportunity to learn from a successful orchid grower.

Come this July 17th to our society's meeting.



**Melida Demorizi**

Orchids for the raffle table will be provided by OFE Orchid Supplies.



Why is this man smiling?



Could this be the reason?

## President's Message

Greetings to all the Members of South Florida Orchid Society. This is my first President's message, so I would like to start by saying THANK YOU to everyone who voted in May, to elect the Officers & Board Members who were installed at our June meeting.

We are blessed to have some really hard- working members, committed to serving our Society, & helping to make it a really enjoyable experience for all of us.

As you know, our 73rd MIAMI INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW "ORCHID TREASURES" will be held Oct 5 & 6th, 2019 at the Watsco Center on the University of Miami Campus from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm each day.

Our Show Chairman Dan Christensen, has been working very hard for many months, to make this our best show ever. On that note, when you mark the dates on your Calendar please consider volunteering for a shift during the show, to help host at our Members Table. Not only do we greet our guests, but we are also there to answer questions & explain the benefits of becoming a member of the South Florida Orchid Society.

As you may have heard me say during the Installation Ceremony, I personally became acquainted with SFOS upon attending a previous SFOS show, & meeting Erna Maxwell & several other volunteers hosting at the Members Table. I was intrigued...a total beginner to the understanding of orchid growing, but wanted to learn how to keep an orchid plant alive.

Although I have always lived in Miami (born & raised), & knew how to grow many different types of plants & vegetables...my best understanding of orchids was limited to *Cataleya corsages* & cut *dendrobium* & other orchid stems which are used in floral arrangements. So, I joined SFOS at the show that year, & know firsthand that the show presents a good opportunity to invite people to attend our monthly meetings, & consider becoming a member of our Society.

Our guest speaker in July, will be a local orchid grower, Melida Demorizi who will be speaking on the topic of *Vandas*. Please welcome her to our meeting. And If there is a topic you want covered, or a specific speaker you would like to hear at a future meeting, please be sure to let us know.

In closing, thank you Sally, Carlos & Dan for all your help as I learn this new position.

Hope to see everyone at our July meeting, & if you will be traveling on vacation,...have fun & be safe.

Chris Alger — President

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**Here is the promised recipe for Caridad Balseiro's great Mac and Cheese dish that everyone enjoyed at the May meeting. Thanks, Cary!**

### MAC & CHEESE CASSEROLE

#### Ingredients

12 oz dry macaroni  
1/4 cup butter  
1/4 cup flour  
1 1/2 cups milk  
1 cup light cream  
1/2 tsp dry mustard powder  
1 tsp onion powder  
salt & pepper to taste  
1 can condensed cream of cheddar soup  
4 cups sharp cheddar (divided)  
1/2 cup fresh Parmesan cheese

#### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
2. Cook macaroni according to package directions. Drain and run under cold water.
3. Melt butter over medium heat in a large saucepan. Whisk in flour and let cook 2 minutes while stirring. Slowly whisk in cream, milk, mustard powder, onion powder, salt and pepper to taste. Cook over medium heat while stirring until thickened.
4. Remove from heat and stir in Parmesan cheese & 3 cups cheddar cheese until melted. Add soup. (The soup is optional but that is what makes it creamy.)
5. Toss cheese sauce & macaroni noodles together. Pour into a greased 9x13 pan.

Top with remaining cheese or bread crumb topping.

6. Bake 18-24 minutes or until bubbly. Do not over cook. Cool 10-15 minutes before serving.

#### **BREAD CRUMB TOPPING**

3/4 cup bread crumb (*Panko Bread Crumbs plain is the best*)  
3 Tablespoon melted butter  
1 cup sharp cheddar cheese  
1 Tablespoon parsley or bacon (*optional*)

Originally posted to Pinterest  
'spendwithpennies.com'

## Outgoing President's Message

### Past President's Message

Hello all of you South Florida Orchid Society Members! I am so happy to be called a Past President - yet again. I took the job as President last year (not really wanting it) because there was a need! I assured the Board that I was not going to be at all of the meeting and they said that was ok. Well I felt in many ways I didn't do as much as I could have - but I tried to do my best. I know the Carlos and Dan both did a lot in my place - when I was missing. I thank them both so much for keeping things going.

I will be the Membership Chair this year and hope that we will be in a mode to get some new members. Plus I hope that some of the "older members" will come on back and take part of the Society again.

You all know that my dogs - Skeeter, Syclone and Twister are much of my life - well all of my life since I lost Timmy in April. The dogs and I will be traveling again a lot this year - but I promise that if I am in town I will be at the meeting!

I will ask one thing of you the Society members - PLEASE - PLEASE give Chris Alger our new President and her Officers and Board Members all of the support that you have shown me in the past (remember I'm still on the Board).

Sally

Past President



**73<sup>rd</sup> Miami International Orchid Show**  
*Orchid Treasures*

*America's Favorite Orchid Show*

Presented by  
**South Florida Orchid Society**



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Pda. Usha 'Mem. Herminia Travieso' SM/SFOS  
Steve Rodriguez, Grower/Exhibitor  
© Ron Hunt, Photographer

## SFOS Annual Awards

Our June meeting is traditionally when we recognize our best growers as well as those members who give of their time and expertise to help the South Florida Orchid Society throughout the year.

This year's big winner was **Steve Rodriguez** who managed to take home a number of top awards including the Del Ora Award which is given to the highest scoring vandaceous orchid presented for judging during the previous year. His Pda. Usha 'Mem. Herminia Travieso' SM/SFOS took that award as well as a silver medal. Steve also won the SFOS Sweepstakes Award as well as the Award for having the highest total ribbon points.

**David Foster**, who is no stranger to these award ceremonies, won the award for winning the most culture ribbons during the past year.

### Congratulations to you both!



The Del Ora Award for highest scoring vandaceous orchid being awarded to Steve Rodriguez by Judging chair Erna Maxwell and President Sally Taylor.



## SFOS Annual Awards



Steve Rodriguez accepts the awards for highest total ribbon points as well as the SFOS Sweepstakes Award from Judging Chair Erna Maxwell, President Sally Taylor, and SFOS Judge Julie Rosenberg.



David Foster is shown with his Special Award for receiving the most Culture Ribbons during the previous year.

2018/19 SFOS Board Members & Judges (pictured with Outgoing President Sally Taylor)



Julie Rosenberg



Joyce Ritter



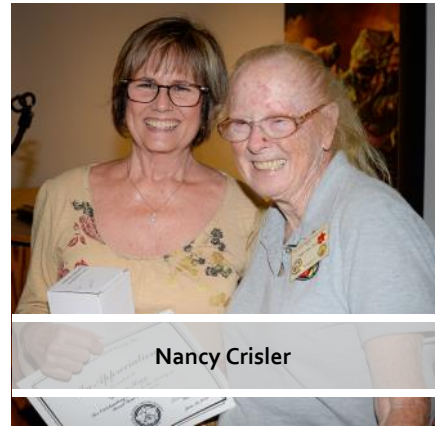
Xavier Morjon



Ralph Hernandez



Erna Maxwell



Nancy Crisler



Diana Hegg



Dan Christensen



Carlos Cahiz



Incoming President Chris Alger



**Incoming SFOS Officers and Board of Directors**



**Incoming Officers and Board members before getting down to business!**



**Getting down to business! We got ya now!**

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## South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

### Board of Directors

**President:** Chris Alger

**1<sup>st</sup> VP:**—Sally Taylor

**2<sup>nd</sup> VP:**—Carlos Cahiz

**Secretary:**—Diana Hegg

**Treasurer:**—Dan Christensen

**Directors, Terms ending in 2020**

Ralph Hernandez, Javier Morejon, Joyce Ritter

**Directors, Term ending in 2021**

Annette Rodriguez, Erna Maxwell, Nancy Crisler

**Directors, Term ending in 2022**

Steve Rodriguez, Lisa Coello, Maria Almodovar

**Immediate Past President**—Sally Taylor

**Show Chairman**—Dan Christensen

**Special Director**—Ron Hunt



## Membership Dues!

It's once again time for all our members to send in their dues for the coming year. Please do so as soon as possible.

July 17th 2019 Meeting!

**1 Free Raffle Ticket**

South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

One Ticket Per Member!

Members ONLY!



Expiration Date: 07/17/19



American Orchid Society

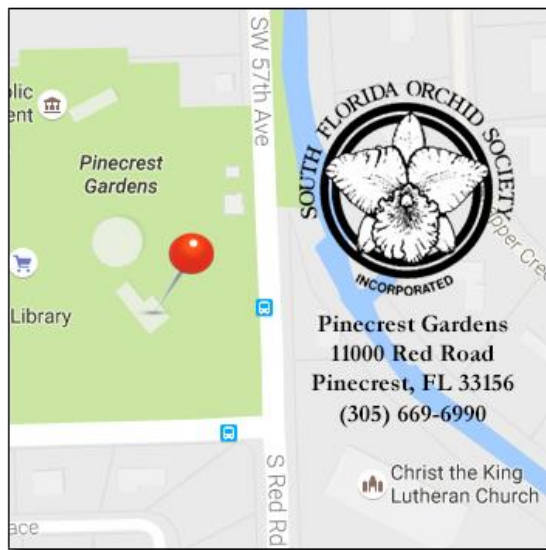
Education, Conservation, Research

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

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

Please send your submission to ...

[Publications@sforchid.com](mailto:Publications@sforchid.com)

And, be sure to check out our web site at...

[www.sforchid.com](http://www.sforchid.com)

See you next month!

Ron Hunt — Editor, The Orchidist

