



The Orchidist

Our Commercial Growers and Suppliers: BACTRA Plant Stand Factory

To begin with, thank you to SFOS for allowing me to share my experience in designing and building Shade Houses for orchid and plant growing in South Florida.

As South Floridians know, we have sun all year round, which is ideal for orchid growing. If you add other variables to the mix; ventilation, watering, and fertilizers, these complement the ideal conditions.

There are different ways to grow these delicate plants. The first thing to notice is which place is the most suitable for their purpose. One must choose a place depending on the type of orchid and its requirements. It's not easy because each species has its own characteristics. Sometimes you see plants in the gardens that surprise you with incredible flowers and it seems that they are not in their environment yet they are healthy. This is one of the big fascinations of the world of orchids and their cultivation.

The shade of the trees is the most used environment for its cultivation and with much success, but you only have to take into account the amount of light that filters its leaves. The ideal situation for cultivating orchids would be to have a structure 8'-9' high and with 50% shade; these are the ideal parameters for the great majority of orchids. We

always recommend the use of pebbles in the shade house floor, as this helps to maintain humidity. The side area of the structure has to be able to control the ventilation. A 30% shade for the sides is a suitable solution.



When we manufacture our shade houses or green houses, we use aluminum or galvanized iron and a shade cloth that can be 30%, 50% or 60%. It all depends on the specific needs of our customers.

BACTRA BDI Inc. is a company dedicated to the manufacturing of structures, furniture, and accessories for the cultivation of orchids. Our company, **Plant Stand Factory**, is backed by more than 35 years of experience. We help customers seek solutions to be able to enjoy the form and color of these beautiful plants. We have developed practical solutions for its cultivation. Simple

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structures with adaptations to control light, ventilation and watering. Hangers that allow the plants to be hung on walls and fences. We also have a new line of clamps that can be used in fences, patio & pool enclosure without drilling.

One of our customer's favorite products is our Aluminum Tiered Benches or plant stands with different models to choose from. They are designed to allow a perfect drainage during the irrigation.

Our vision is to give you optimal solutions with intelligent designs. Specifically created to help your plants thrive indoors and outdoors and strong enough to last a lifetime.

Our main mission is to manufacture and design specialty display and exhibition benches for orchid cultivation and other gardening needs.

We build our products with the sturdiness and durability of aluminum, which never rusts. We hope that this information will be useful for orchid-loving readers and we are at your disposal to support you in your doubts without any commitment.

You can write to info@bactra.com, call us at (954) 775-4990 or visit us at 10625 NW 53 St. Louis

Sunrise FL 33351

or simply go to our website www.plantstandfactory.com

Arturo Diaz Marcinkiewicz

Photos Curtesy BACTRA Plant Stand Factory



President's Message

Greetings to all South Florida Orchid Society Members,

Hope everyone is well and being careful as we watch our community trying to return to "the new normal". Each of us will have even more personal responsibility, as we determine what activities we are willing to participate in and what level of risk we are comfortable with.

The SFOS Board recently voted to wait at least another month before we start having SFOS Membership meetings again at Pinecrest. Here's hoping that by November, it will be safe to resume our meetings.

I would like to thank our Member Melida DeMorizi for arranging a donation of trays of small Orchid plants and potting material to SFOS. The donor wishes to remain anonymous but when you see or talk to Melida, please thank her. Also, a big thank you to Maggie Echevarria, Maria & Tony Almodovar, and Daisy Wortel and Margaret Marshall who volunteered on short notice to pick up the plants, repot them & care for them so they will be healthy until we are able to bring them to a meeting to share with our Members.

I hope you enjoy reading the story written by our Commercial Member Arturo Diaz about his company Bactra. You may find yourself wanting to install one of his shade houses when you see his photos. And of course, you will enjoy reading the column on Conversations with our Members and you may find the recipe for the delicious pasta dish that Barbara Lutz brings to our meetings.

Until next time, please stay safe and if you have not already done so please remember to exercise your right to VOTE.

Chris Alger, President—South Florida Orchid Society



Chuck McCartney

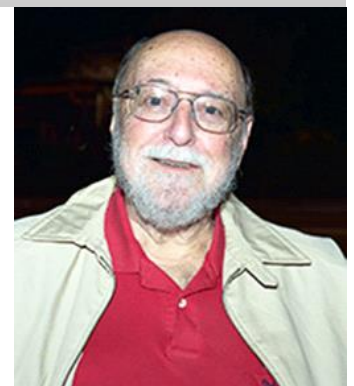
Charles (Chuck) McCartney, Jr, former American Orchid Society editor and a familiar face to many South Florida orchid lovers sadly passed away on Sunday, October 11, 2020.

A full obituary has been published by the Cherokee Scout newspaper in North Carolina where Chuck maintained a second home.

We send our deepest condolences to Chuck's friends and loved ones.

Charles McCartney Jr. | Cherokee Scout, Murphy, North Carolina

<https://www.cherokeescout.com/obituaries/charles-mccartney-jr>



Membership Corner

There is not much to report from the Membership Corner - - - Oh yes there is! By the time you are reading this in the Newsletter - you should have received your new 2020/2021 Roster! I was hoping to be able to hand them out at the meeting - to you in person but the "Coronavirus" had other ideas and has kept us from meeting. So, it was back to the old fashion way - I wrote the addresses on envelopes and I mailed them! If you have not done it yet - please take a minute and see if I got all of your information correct. I have proofed and reproofed the copy - but I'm just as sure that something has slipped by me. If you see a change that needs to be made please let me know - so I can correct it before we both forget.

Soon (I hope) we will be able to get back to our meetings and get the see each other and find out how everyone is doing. By now you have gotten all of your greenhouses cleaned up, orchids repotted and all the weeding done - right? Well, take care of the plants - soon they will be coming to a meeting to hopefully get a Blue Ribbon.

Please stay home and stay safe until we can get together again.

Sally Taylor, Membership Chair

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sallytaylor@att.net

954-260-0764

SFOS - T-SHIRTS



Just a reminder that T-Shirts with the SFOS Logo are available any time - let me know you are interested and I will get you the ordering information and get the process started.

Remembering Tim Anderson

Some time after the first week of August I was told that Tim Anderson had passed away. I'm sure that some of you will remember Tim, as I do. Tim and his wife Ann were vendors at our shows back in the day - when our shows were held in March. Then came the day that we needed a Show Chairman (I was the President back then) and I asked Tim. Tim became the Show Chairman and did a great job - although I'm not sure he ever forgave me for asking him to be the Show Chairman. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Ann and the Anderson Family in their time of sadness.

Sally



Conversations With Our Members: Barbara & Danny Lutz

Barbara and Danny Lutz are Registered Nurses. Barbara worked at Jackson Memorial Hospital as Associate Head Nurse of Neuro-Ortho-Trauma Rehab and Danny worked as AHN at JMH of Ortho-Trauma Spine.

We received our first orchid when Danny's parents moved to a condo and couldn't take it with them. We called it the "Armstrong Orchid" because Bud Armstrong, a co-worker of Danny's mother and a member of EALOC, gave it to his mother for her birthday. We found the EALOC in the Miami Herald when they used to print Miami news. We started to attend and found out orchids have names. The Armstrong orchid is actually Queen's Dowry and we think we are members of orchid clubs today because of it. We still have the Armstrong orchid, I mean Queen's Dowry.

We were members of EALOC and as we assisted in putting in their orchid display in the South Florida Orchid Show (then in Coconut Grove auditorium), Mona and George Heider asked us to volunteer for the orchid show. We started by assisting Mona and George, also members of EALOC, at the Hospitality table. When we retired in 2000 we were able to then assist with Security that was headed by Edwardo Marcellini. Then Mona handed us the job of handing out the trophies and ribbons. Grant and Vickie Hawk also got us to assist with individual entries for judging.

In those days, if you remember, the individual entries were in a serpentine landscaped area of at least 50 feet long and on both sides with well over 150 plant entries. To see the old Coconut Grove Exposition Hall transformed from and was amazing. Fork lifts bringing in full size trees and dump trucks full of sand, it was a beehive of activity,

Today, before the pandemic, Barbara spent one day a week fertilizing the orchids at Zoo Miami that Florida Orchid Society started putting in the trees. EALOC continues to put orchids in the trees in the zoo. If anyone would like to assist in this effort, we take all volunteers when we get back to normal. We have also, for the last 1 ½ years been putting orchids in the landscape in the Kampong. That has also been put on hold. But to keep up our skills during this pandemic, we have been doing it at our home and neighbors, with their permission.

Keep your mask on and enjoy your landscape! See you all when we beat this thing.

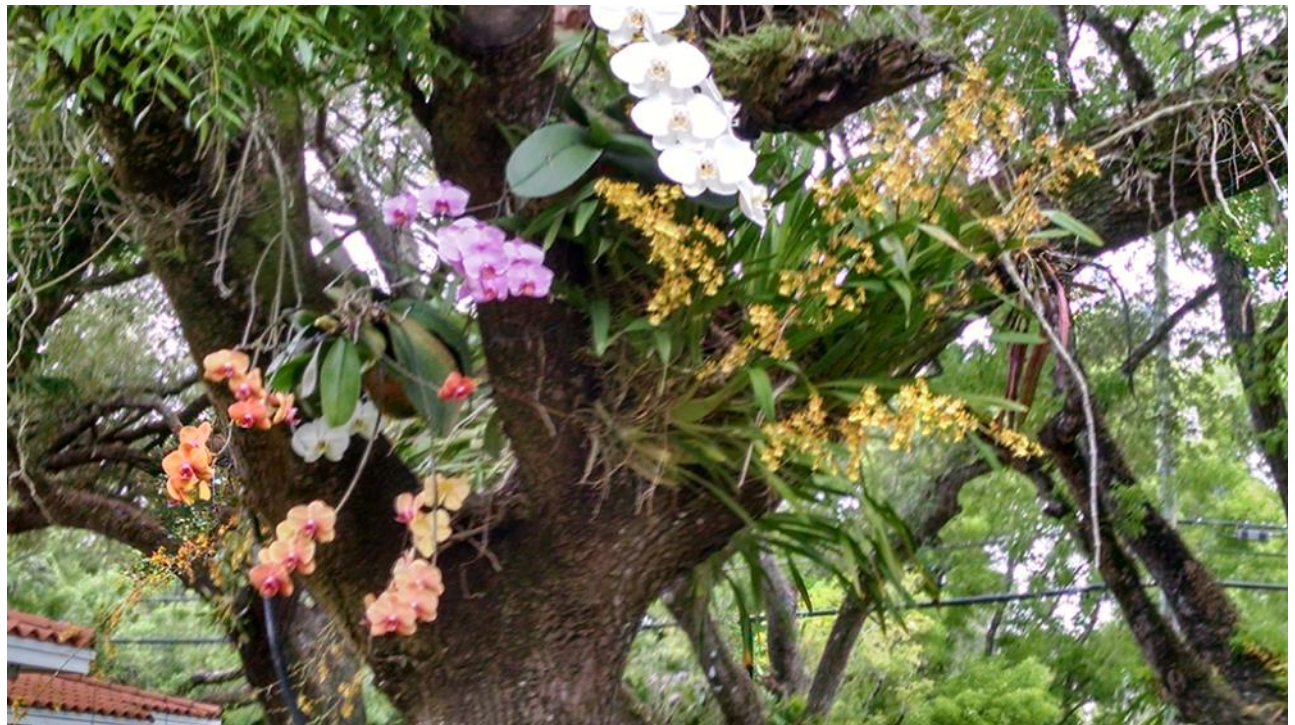
Since I can't share my tortellini with you I thought I'd share my "recipe". It's just one of the things I "throw together."

Barbara's Tortellini "Recipe"

- Tortellini any kind (I use Barilla dried 4 cheese tortellini when I can find it)
- Marinara Sauce – homemade or your favorite brand (I use Publix Premium)
- Grated Parmesan Cheese
- Fresh Basil

Cook tortellini until just not quite al dente. Place some marinara sauce in a pan. How much depends on how much tortellini you've cooked. Mix some parmesan cheese in with the sauce to taste. Add the cooked tortellini and heat gently to allow the pasta to finish cooking. Top with coarsely chopped basil just before serving. Enjoy!





Conversations With Our Members: Barbara & Danny Lutz



The People Who Help Make The Orchidist Possible

Orchids in Paradise

For the finest selection of quality orchids, exquisite gifts, stunning floral arrangements and more, visit R.F. Orchids, South Florida's oldest and most prestigious orchid firm. All of this awaits you in our tropical paradise.



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The South Florida Orchid Society Presents...

"An Introduction to Orchids"

Edited by Julie Rosenberg

Everything you need to know in order to successfully grow orchids in South Florida.

Pick up your copy today at better orchid sellers or call (305) 256-0483.



*Dan
And
Margie*

1/4 mile North of Sheridan St.
West of I-75, just off 185th Way
Open Tues. thru Sun.
12 noon - 5 pm

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Orchids

South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

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Meetings are held from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM
on the third Wednesday of each month.

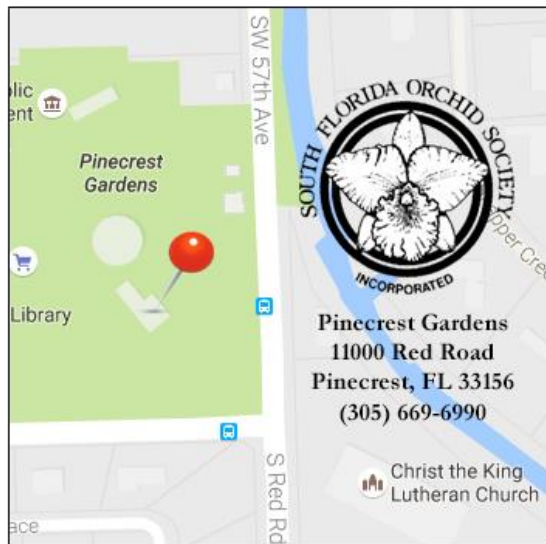
Registration of plants is from 7:00-7:30 PM.
Program begins at 8:00 PM.

South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

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INTRODUCING ORCHID PRO

The New Online Orchid Database

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American Orchid Society

Education, Conservation, Research

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

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

www.sforchid.com

See you next month!

Ron Hunt — Editor, The Orchidist

