



The Orchidist

SFOS December 15th 2021 Program

Due to the permanent closure of the former Shorty's Restaurant located on NW 87th Ave in Doral, we have moved our event.

The new location for the SFOS Holiday Party on December 15th, 2021 will be at the Shorty's Restaurant located near Dadeland Shopping Mall & the Dadeland South Metrorail Station.

The address is:

**Shorty's Restaurant
9200 South Dixie Highway
Miami, Florida 33156**

We will be gathering from 7 to 9 pm.

Parking is free.

Cost for Members & Guests is \$30.00 per person, & all SFOS Members attending will receive a gift Orchid plant from the Society. There will also be a Complimentary Raffle Ticket for the chance to win a blooming Orchid Plant given to everyone attending our Holiday Party.

We are asking that everyone who plans on joining us to celebrate the end of another year & enjoy a delicious Bar-B-Q dinner, to please make their Reservation in advance so that we will know how many Orchid plants to bring.

Hope to see everyone there!

Chris Alger, President
South Florida Orchid Society



Happy Holidays



SFOS Holiday Party!

Baby Back Feast!

December 15th, 2021, which would be our regular December meeting night.

Choice of Entree

Baby Back Ribs Half Rack

Baby Back Ribs & Chicken

Baby Back Ribs & Spare Ribs

Choice of Side Dish

Corn on the Cob

BBQ Beans

House Salad

ALL PLATES INCLUDE

French Fries

Cole Slaw

Garlic Bread

Soda, Coffee, or Tea

Alcoholic Beverages may be purchased separately at the bar.

9200 South Dixie Highway Miami, Florida 33156

Cost is \$30 per member or guest which includes dinner, drink, a holiday plant for each member and a FREE raffle ticket. Dinner is from 7:00 to 9:00PM.

Reservations and Payment must be made in advance via Credit Card. Call (954) 252-8116.

Seating is limited so be sure to make your reservations early!

President's Message

Greetings to all South Florida Members!

It's that time of the year when we look back on all of the experiences we have had during 2021. In some ways, there have been very difficult moments, but there have also been successes. SFOS Members went for many months unable to meet together, but in June, we joined together again & had an entertaining social evening playing Bingo with a chance to win Orchid prizes.

At the November meeting, our Guest Speaker was Yolanda Cuesta of Quest Orchids. Yolanda shared her tips on how to use flowering Orchid plants & cut stems & greenery to create Beautiful Holiday Arrangements. Quest is a local grower here in Miami-Dade & Yolanda is well known for providing Custom Orchid Arrangements in addition to an extensive selection of Orchid plants.

Because of the permanent closure of the Shorty's Bar-BQ located in Doral, we will get together at 7:00 pm, December 15th at the Original Shorty's Bar-BQ located on US1 near Dadeland for our Holiday Party. As is our tradition, each SFOS MEMBER attending will receive an orchid plant as a gift, & everyone will have the chance to win one of the flowering Orchid raffle plants. All this while enjoying a delicious dinner & sharing a happy moment with friends.

Our Membership Chair & First Vice-President Sally Taylor has been very busy sending out Renewal Notices for 2022, & is already preparing the new Membership Badges. She & I both thank everyone who has already sent in his or her 2022 Dues Renewals & Contact Information forms.

If you enjoy looking at Facebook, you have probably been seeing all the Orchid growing tips, articles, photos & meeting information updates on our South Florida Orchid Society Facebook Page. Our new "Acting Facebook Coordinator" SFOS Board Member Annette Rodriguez has been doing a great job & is working hard at using our Facebook Page as a valuable Social Media Tool to reach out to new visitors & reconnect with old friends. Remember to LIKE & SHARE when you visit the site.

In January, we will meet again at our usual location at Pinecrest Gardens.

Hope to see you at the Holiday Party. If you have travel plans please be safe. Wishing everyone a joyful holiday season spent with your family, friends & loved ones.

Sincerely,
Chris Alger, President
South Florida Orchid Society



Members Corner

Although we didn't have anyone join the SFOS in November - I'm still a very, very happy person! I was able to get the Renewal Notices all mailed out during the first week of November. That however is not what made me happy (I was happy that I got that job done) - but what made me happy was the response I got - it was GREAT!!! I'm still getting renewals in and I'm working on the receipts and badges - those things should be ready to mail soon.

We still have some members who have not paid their 2021 dues - if you are reading this and your have paid your 2021 dues - please sent me your check for \$20.00 so you will not be dropped from the SFOS Membership List.

Remember that come January - if you don't have a 2022 Membership Badge you will not be able to take part in SFOS perks at the Meetings!!

I have had emails and phone calls from some members and I must say I have been delighted to hear from these people. I have heard from Danny and Barbara Lutz - they have moved up state to be a little nearer family. I get to talk to Linda Wheeler every so often - we got to spend a

good part of the day together not too long ago. I also talked to Angela Maltzman and found out she can't come out to meeting any longer - but is still very interested in the SFOS.

So let me just say - keep those renewal checks coming in and I'll be happy! I hope that everyone has a good time at the Holiday Party. I'm sorry that I will be missing the dinner this year. I will be showing my dog (Twister) at the big dog show in Orlando. I wish for everyone a very Happy Holiday and I'll see you all in January.

T-SHIRTS

If you would like to have a SFOS T-Shirt - please call, text or email me and I'll get it ordered and have it at the January SFOS Meeting. Everyone who has their SFOS T-Shirt on at the meeting will have a chance at an orchid plant.

Sally Taylor
Membership Chair



November 2021 Judging Report

Judges: Julie Rosenberg, Javier Morejon and Erna Maxwell

Thank you for bringing in plants. We look forward to seeing your blooms in January.

Blue Ribbons

- Epidendrum porpax - David Foster
- Cirr. Emily Siegrist - David Foster
- Bc. Punakea 'Lee' - Maggie Echeverria

Erna Maxwell, Judging Chair.



© 2021 Ron Hunt

Epidendrum porpax - David Foster



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Cirr. Emily Siegrist - David Foster



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Bc. Punakea 'Lee' - Maggie Echeverria

New Acting Facebook Coordinator

We would like to announce the appointment of Annette Rodriguez as our new acting Facebook coordinator.

Annette is, I'm sure, familiar to just about every member of the SFOS. She's the always smiling lady with the big camera making sure everyone gets their photos taken. Annette's bubbly personality makes her a perfect choice as Facebook coordinator

As you may be aware, Social Media has become a very important form of communication in the society we live in.

Our **SOUTH FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY** Facebook Page was created on July 21st, 2012, to represent our Society as a Community & Non-profit organization.

We are able to use our Facebook Page as a Bulletin Board to post information & photos about upcoming speakers, special events & judging awards. We are able to encourage visitors to attend our meetings & those visitors can potentially become new members.

Additionally, we are able to use our Facebook Page to post Educational Information on the various topics related to the growing & care of Orchids. Education is stated one of our Missions as a 501(c)3 Non-profit organization. Both SFOS Members & Visitors alike can access & benefit from this information.

Please join me in thanking Annette Rodriguez for taking on this responsibility for our Society. Visit our Facebook Page often & LIKE, COMMENT & SHARE the posts in our News feed.

If you have any suggestions for future articles, please share your suggestions with Annette.

Chris Alger, President
South Florida Orchid Society



Photos from our
November
meeting





Reprint **December: The Month of Gifts**

By Thomas Miranda

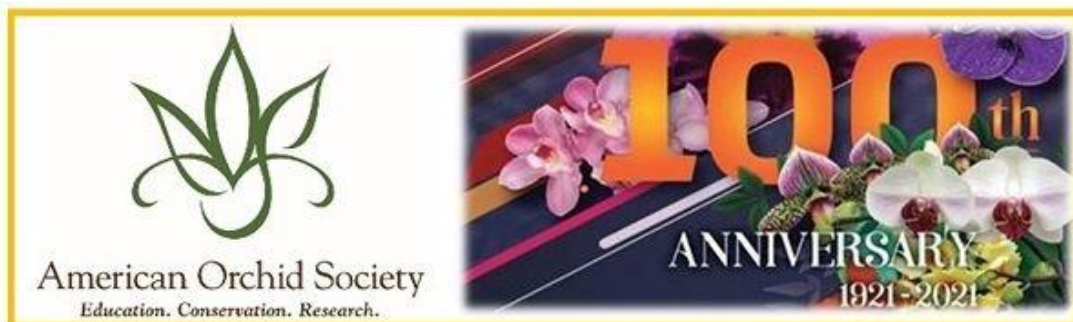
They say it is better to give than to receive, but I am not so sure that is entirely true. Sure, seeing the joy and satisfaction on a loved one's face as they unwrap that perfect present you hand selected and lovingly wrapped for them can be an absolutely sublime pleasure. But it can be equally sublime to be on the receiving end of the transaction too. Gifts are not always material things. All of us have been blessed with unique combinations of talents and abilities that are ours alone, bestowed upon us by some benign force. We have also all been given our own unique sorrows, burdens and insecurities by forces that seem random, unfair and arbitrary. Yes, gifts are not always all that pleasant to get, and often involve dutiful responsibility and conscientious effort to preserve and protect them once received.

At the Smithsonian Gardens Orchid Collection, we are occasionally entrusted with legacy collections. These often consist of beloved, pampered plants that were carefully nurtured by someone's loving care for many decades. Thirty-year old specimen plants can be really magnificent and such extravagant gifts make our collection even more special. But having such plants entrusted to us is a serious responsibility. It is our stability and commitment to collection excellence that allows people to have enough confidence to gift us with such outstanding treasures. Indeed, it is truly wonderful to "receive."

GIVE ME A BREAK With the shortest daylengths of the year coming up this month, many orchids need a serious rest at this time. Deciduous orchids such as catasetums, lycastes, nobile dendrobiums, habenarias and several others require extremely dry conditions in winter and can be seriously harmed by over exposure to water. Once a plant shuts down its metabolism for the season, a soaking will most likely make that plant rot away. Even plants that retain their leaves, such as cattleyas, oncidiums and phalaenopsis are still growing more slowly or gearing up to bloom and do not require nearly the amount of food and water they did in the spring and summer seasons.

GIMME SHELTER In temperate areas of the Northern Hemisphere, most orchids are being sheltered from the cold in greenhouses, light rooms and windowsills. Tropical orchids would not survive outdoors in colder climates. It is imperative that your growing area be well insulated from cold. Check to be sure there are no cold drafts or greenhouse cracks and that heaters, cold-alarms and circulating fans are in good working order. A little attention to winterizing your set up now can prevent serious heartbreak when the extreme cold weather hits.

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GIVE AND TAKE Cymbidiums and phalaenopsis have been elongating their spikes this month and are starting to bud up nicely. As the buds fatten, spikes need additional support, or they will sag or even become pendent. This might be attractive on a mounted or hanging-basket plant, but virtually all potted orchid plants should have their spikes supported with a stake. Always try to do this before the flowers open or they might be angled funny. There is nothing more disconcerting than facing an orchid where the flower is sideways, or worse, upside down, because it was staked too late.

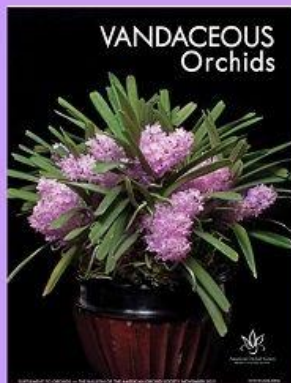
GIMME SOME LOVIN' This may sound a little crazy, but over the years, I have noticed that orchids can pick up on my mood. When I am distraught, so are they! They simply do not grow as well. When they all get the same care, and I am just going through the motions, they muddle along with me, but do not really thrive. However, when I admire and appreciate them all as individuals and take the time to enjoy and learn about each plant's individuality, it is then that my greatest growing successes come my way. I believe the plants can sense when they are truly admired and appreciated. If you give them that simple act of commitment and love, they will pay you back with the greatest gift of all, their spectacular flowers.

— Tom Mirenda has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades and is the past chair of the AOS Conservation Committee. He is an AOS accredited judge in the Hawaii Center (email: biophiliak@gmail.com) ORCHIDS Magazine (aos.org)

To receive a FREE digital sample of ORCHIDS magazine [click here](#)

NEW FOR THE NEW YEAR! Put This On Your 2022 Calendar

[REGISTER HERE](#)



AOS Speaker's Day

Pour Your Coffee and Prepare Brunch!
Enjoy a Day with these Delightful Speakers

Explore the Virtual World of Vandaceous Orchids

SATURDAY, January 29, 2022

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4834617917122351119>

Start Time 10 a.m. (Eastern Standard Time)

\$30 USD

Building on the 2021 Bodacious Vandaceous Orchids Magazine Supplement, this is an opportunity to learn more about the VANDA family of orchids.

Tune in to presentations by four distinguished speakers.

- 1) **Kim Fedderson** from *Fair Orchids*: Yes, You Can Grow Vandaceous Orchids at Home
- 2) **Jason Fischer** from *Orchids Limited*: The Culture & History of *Vanda falcata* (formerly *Neofinetia*)
- 3) **Bob Fuchs** Pres. of *RF Orchids*: The Latest Trends in Vanda Hybridizing
- 4) **Brenda Oviatt** from *Botanica Ltd.*: Angraecoids - Conservation and Culture

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Orchids



SFOS T-Shirts & Polo shirts available!

See Sally Taylor for all the details!

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.



South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

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Directors, Term ending in 2023

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Immediate Past President—Chris Alger

Show Chairman—Vacant

Special Director—Ron Hunt

Meetings are held from 7:00PM to 9:00PM
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.

P.O. Box 328615

Ft. Lauderdale FL 33332

Telephone — (305) 256-0483



Get Vaccinated!

The South Florida Orchid Society, Inc. is affiliated with the
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American Orchid Society.



American Orchid Society

Education, Conservation, Research

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

You can always find both current and past issues of *The Orchidist* on our web site, www.sforchid.com.

See you next month!

Ron Hunt — Editor, *The Orchidist*