



The Orchidist

SFOS July 19 2023 Program

Ah summer in the sub-tropics! What's not to love? ~~Blue Gray~~ **Gray** skies, ~~pleasant~~ **oppressive** temperatures, and beautiful **horrible** weather. Yep, it's that time again. Hurricane season is here! Or, as channel seven would say, **"TERROR FROM THE SKIES!!!!"**

So, how do we cope? Never mind that roof! I'm talking orchids! How do we prepare and protect our precious babies from those oh so nasty elements?

Fortunately, we don't have to go it alone. At least not completely. Our good friend, Peter Kouchalakos, is here to share some tips and insight that may well help save our plants... not to mention, our sanity!

Peter Kouchalakos, along with his wife Clara, are the owners of PCK Orchids and Exotic Plants. Peter is a law school graduate who found his true calling in growing and teaching others to successfully grow orchids and other exotic plants.



Peter Kouchalakos likes to call himself the Johnny Appleseed of orchids. As he told a Miami Herald reporter, "I just want to spread the joy. I'm lucky to get to do what I love and get paid for it."

We should all be so lucky!

Peter will also be providing plants for our raffle table as well as having plants for sale.

We will also be once again doing our popular silent auction. (Cash & checks only please!)

So bring lots of money!

FORT!! 19TH OF JULY CELEBRATION!

We will be celebrating an extended 4th of July at our July 19th meeting . Steve and Annette Rodriguez will be serving us All Beef Hot Dogs for dinner. They will also be bringing condiments for the hot dogs. They are suggesting that members consider bringing side dishes you would like to enjoy with the hot dogs, such as Coleslaw, salads, pickles, fruits, chips and dips, sodas and desserts.

President's Message

Hello all,

I would like to extend an appreciation for everyone as I start this venture as president of the society.

The board and I will be working throughout the year to bring you good speakers and ensure that the meetings remain interesting for both old and new members. I am also hoping to have some special events take place during the year.

We are focusing on some new events. There is the rare Plant Show that will be going on at Redlands in October and we are in the process of working with Pinecrest Gardens to see if we can install orchids in the trees at Pinecrest gardens.

Please be sure to come to our meetings as we have some great speakers coming up in the next few months and makes sure to take part in our silent auction, raffle, and plant judging. Also, let me know of any changes or additions you might like to see at our meetings. Also remember that this is hurricane season and we need to be sure we do all we can to ensure our blooming beauties make it through til November 1.

I know you will be supportive of these ventures and I look forward to working with you all to ensure the club continues to prosper. I apologize that I will be out of town during the next meeting but Sally Taylor will be helping to run the meeting next month. Please provide her with all the assistance you can.

Happy Growing,

Javier Morejon

President,

South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

Membership Corner

Again and again you all surprise me! I really missed you all in June - but you came through - we have 2 new Members (come to the July Meeting and meet them) and we also had some renewals.

I have been busy on behalf of the SFOS as I delivered the Roster to the printer on Thursday and they will have it ready for me before the July meeting.

On that note - plan to come to the July meeting (July 19th) and pick up your Roster!

I was busy at a dog show during the June meeting - Summer got a few points towards her Grand Championship - but still has a long way to go. We are going to keep working on it.

We will see you on July 19th! Summer said you should come - if for no other reason, to see her!

Sally Taylor

Membership Chair



Annual SFOS Awards

Each year, at our June Installation and Awards meeting, we recognize some outstanding achievements by our members. These include special awards for orchid quality and culture. Although our ribbon judging sometimes seems a little chaotic, we do keep track of these ribbon awards and members accrue points for each ribbon. And from time to time, judges also recognize exceptional flower or plant quality with formal SFOS awards. This past meeting, we were delighted to present these special annual awards to several of our members:

For the **Highest Number of Ribbon Points**, Danny Gallardo. Kudos to Danny for bringing so many wonderful blooming orchids to our meetings!

For superior orchid culture, Jorge Merlo received a CCA/SFOS on *Dendrobium secundum* 'Jorge Michael'. This **Certificate of Cultural Achievement** was recognized with one of our annual awards, the **Fennell Trophy for Orchid Culture**, and the **Sparks Trophy for the Best Dendrobium** awarded during the fiscal year. Congratulations, Jorge, for all three awards!

Another SFOS award, this one a **Silver Medal**, went to Bc. Florida Stars 'Ion Drive' SM/SFOS, exhibited by Steve Rodriguez. This recognition earned Steve the **Jones & Scully Trophy for the Best Cattleya Alliance** plant awarded during the fiscal year. Steve is also the recipient of the **SFOS Sweepstakes Award**, for the most total points (ribbons and medals). Congratulations, Steve, for this achievement!

We're looking forward to seeing everyone's best orchids in this coming year, so bring them in for judging! Maybe you'll win one of these coveted prizes.

Erna Maxwell, Judging Chair

Julie Rosenberg, Vice Chair



Danny Gallardo



Jorge Merlo



Steve Rodriguez.

From the Past President

Hi South Florida Orchid Society Members,

We will still be celebrating an extended 4th of July at our meeting on July 19th, 2023 at 8:00 pm at Pinecrest Gardens. Steve and Annette Rodriguez will be serving us All Beef Hot Dogs for dinner. They will also be bringing condiments for the hot dogs. They are suggesting that members consider bringing side dishes you would like to enjoy with the hot dogs, such as Coleslaw, salads, pickles, fruits, chips and dips, sodas and desserts.

And don't forget to bring your blooming plants to enter at 7:00 pm for SFOS CERTIFIED JUDGING. The points you earn will start accruing toward the 2023-2024 JUDGING AWARDS.

Speaking of AWARDS, at our June 21st, 2023 we held the most awesome VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CEREMONY with JORGE MERLO as Master of Ceremonies, and the JUDGING AWARD CEREMONY which was conducted by our esteemed SFOS JUDGES, ERNA MAXWELL, CHAIR of JUDGING and JULIE ROSENBERG, JUDGE. Also, thank you to JULIE ROSENBERG and RON HUNT for preparing all the Award Certificates and SALLY TAYLOR for arranging for the 2022-2023 Awards plaques to be inscribed with the winners names and delivering them to Miami in time for the event. CONGRATULATIONS and THANK YOU to everyone who was recognized for their VOLUNTEER SERVICE during 2022-2023 and for the JUDGING AWARD WINNERS who were recognized for their hard work and success growing their orchids.

And now, a salute to our 2023-2024 SFOS Board of Director's who were installed this evening.

We give a huge shout out to STEVE and ANNETTE RODRIGUEZ for the beautiful festive decorations in the Cypress Hall, and the delicious hot buffet and beautifully decorated cake, which they prepared for us. Thank you to everyone who brought refreshments to add to the buffet. It was an amazing and fun evening that I know everyone enjoyed.

And thank you for your continuing support of our SFOS MINI-AUCTION SERIES. Your donations and bids will help to continue our SFOS Programming for this coming 2023-2024 year.

We have planned a VERY SPECIAL SURPRISE for the July 19th Meeting...hope you will be there. For our members who are traveling, be safe.

Sincerely,

Chris Alger, Board Member
South Florida Orchid Society



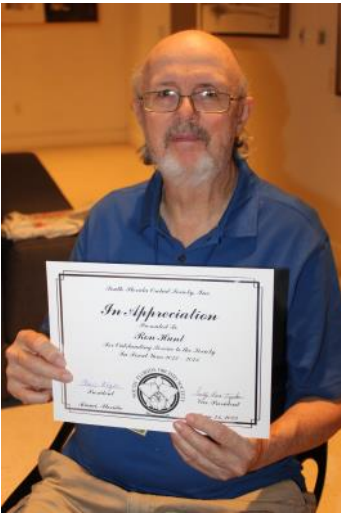
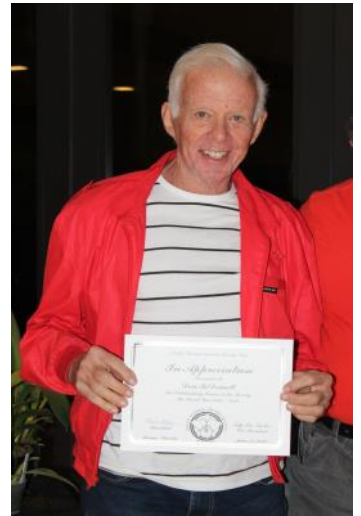
SFOS 2023 Awards Ceremony and Banquet



SFOS 2023 Awards Ceremony and Banquet



SFOS 2023 Awards Ceremony and Banquet



SFOS 2023 Awards Ceremony and Banquet



SFOS 2023 Awards Ceremony and Banquet





SFOS 2023 Awards Ceremony and Banquet



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.



28100 SW 182 Ave. • Homestead FL 33030
T: 305-245-4570 • F: 305-247-6568 • www.rforchids.com



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

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 at SFOS monthly meetings!



SFOS T-Shirts & Polo shirts available!
See Sally Taylor for all the details!



South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

Board of Directors

President: Javier Morejon

1st VP:—Sally Taylor

2nd VP:—Don McDermott

Secretary:—Margaret Marshall

Treasurer:—Randall Breitwisch

Directors, Terms ending in 2024

Steve Rodriguez, Michael O’Dea, Barry White

Directors, Term ending in 2025

Joyce Ritter, James Furst, Chris Alger

Directors, Term ending in 2026

Annette Rodriguez, Erna Maxwell, Nancy Crisler

Immediate Past President—Chris Alger

Show Chairman—Vacant

Special Directors—Ron Hunt & Julie Rosenberg

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 565241

Miami, FL 33256



Become a Member of the South Florida Orchid Society!

MEMBER BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES

- **MEETING AND MIXING** with many friendly and helpful orchid “neighbors”, amateurs, advanced collectors and commercial growers.
- **WELCOME KIT** includes a copy of “An Introduction to Orchids” our book that covers just about everything you need to know to successfully grow orchids in South Florida.
- **MONTHLY MEETINGS** with lectures by leading local and national orchid authorities.
- **FREE REFRESHMENTS!**
- **MONTHLY RAFFLE TABLE AND SILENT AUCTION!**
- **EXHIBIT TABLE** each month for displays of member’s plants.
- **JUDGING** each month by qualified regional and national judges.
- **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** that includes awards given and timely meeting notes.
- **FESTIVE HOLIDAY PARTY!**
- **AIR CONDITIONED** spacious conveniently located meeting hall with ample **FREE** parking.

The South Florida Orchid Society, Inc. is affiliated with the West Palm Beach judging center of the American Orchid Society.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

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*