



The Orchidist

SFOS August 16, 2023 Program

Omar Gonzalez

A chemist by trade and botanist at heart. I have found orchid growing a rewarding and enjoyable hobby. Work skills are used and are enjoyable for change. Solving problems is another aspect I enjoy.

I had moved back to Miami from Iowa in 2011 when I met a man that gave me some orchids: Spathoglottis, Vanilla, and Sobralia. It took a while for me to give up on a vegetable garden. Eventually I attended an orchid show before my first trip to Hawaii. I visited Akatsuka, Carmela, and became even more obsessed in Orchids.



Upon my return, I started growing seedlings under lights, after a year it was obvious that I needed a big yard. An opportunity to volunteer at the Bonnet House gave me lots of hands on experience in managing a Vandaceous collection. From then on, I would learn from anyone that would talk to me, seeking out knowledgeable growers, attending society meetings throughout Florida. I would attend every orchid show from Miami to Fort Pierce. Especially if they had lectures. Eventually some growers took a liking to me and they were a pleasure to get to know. All their wisdom was used to make my collection grow and I figure out how to make them thrive through trial and error. In that time I cannot tell you of how many plants were lost due to being a stranger in my own back yard. I have gone on to do orchid seed culture, hybrids, as well as caring for collections in private homes or businesses. I enjoy growing a myriad of genera, thanks to Springwater Orchids, Redhawk Orchids, Bill Thoms, Andy's Orchids, Tamiami Festival, Redland Festival, you get the picture. My hands on experience is extensive with Cattleya, and Vandaceous. I also take care of private collections.

Come hear me share the monsters divided, finding the best conditions for orchids, the pests and diseases and many other topics if time allows.

Lessons Learned: Wisdom from Growers and Orchid Growing. The hands on approach to orchid growing. Many failures and long awaited bloom teach more than we knew beforehand. I will share a presentation that will give some practical orchid care guidance.

Omar will be speaking this month on the Encyclia genus, Cattleya Alliance (Cattleya, Laelia, Schomburkia, Brassavola, Broughtonia, Encyclia and other related genera.

Omar will kindly be providing plants for our raffle table and will also have plants to sell.

President's Message

Hello all,

I hope you and your orchid babies are all doing well and getting through this ongoing hot weather.

Fortunately, while this is nothing out there right now, we need to remember that we are in the middle of hurricane season, so we need to be ready just in case something comes our way. Also remember to keep yourselves and your babies well hydrated especially as these heat indexes continue to go over 105.6 degrees. Not fun for anyone outside.

As mentioned last month, we are in the process of working with Pinecrest Gardens to see if we can install orchids in the trees at Pinecrest Gardens. Last month a number of our members toured the garden and we have come up with a list of species that should be easy to install and grow in our environment. More information about this project will be given as we move on.

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 orchid judging. Also let me know of any changes or additions you might like to see at our meetings. Remember as well, 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.

On a more somber note, I am saddened to announce the recent passing of Ms. Georgia Tasker. Georgia was a columnist for the Miami Herald and a long-time member of the society who along with Sandra Schultz was known for her friendly nature and their plants. A celebration of life will be held for her on Sunday, October 1 from 4-6 PM in the Garden House at Fairchild. Please RSVP to Ms. Schultz by Sept. 15 if you wish to attend. Details will also be provided in this month's newsletter.

Happy Growing,
Javier Morejon

Hi South Florida Orchid Society Members,

Please join us at our August Meeting and enjoy a refreshing cold salad bar treat to help us get thru another hot month. Steve and Annette Rodriguez will be providing the salad greens and dressing

We suggest that you think back to your favorite salad bar toppings and bring something to serve on the SALAD BAR. Items like cherry tomatoes, sliced cucumbers, onion slices, chickpeas, hard-boiled eggs, radishes, shredded cheese, broccoli, cauliflower, Sunflower Seeds, and Croutons.

Alternatively, perhaps you would prefer bringing a side dish that goes well with a salad bar such as Cole slaw, potato salad or macaroni salad, or some beverages.

We had a great speaker in July with Peter Kouchalakos making a presentation on preparing your orchids for a storm. Peter also brought a printed handout for everyone. In addition, he provided some awesome Raffle Plants.

Congratulations to RON HUNT who received our first SFOS MEMBER OF THE MONTH AWARD. Please see Annette

Rodriguez, Committee Chair if you would like to recommend a member for a future award. She will be unveiling the honoree of the August award at this month's meeting.

The SFOS JUDGES have asked that you please enter your plants for judging between 7:00 and 7:30 pm. If you bring your plants late, it causes them to run late and miss the speaker presentation.

Our SFOS Silent Mini-Auction Series has continued to receive great donations from our members and has become very popular. If you are the successful bidder, you may pay by cash or check (no credit cards accepted).

Our FACEBOOK PAGE continues to have new followers. The content is interesting and informative. Be sure to hit the LIKE button and SHARE the content with your Social Media friends.

Sincerely,
Chris Alger, Board Member
South Florida Orchid Society

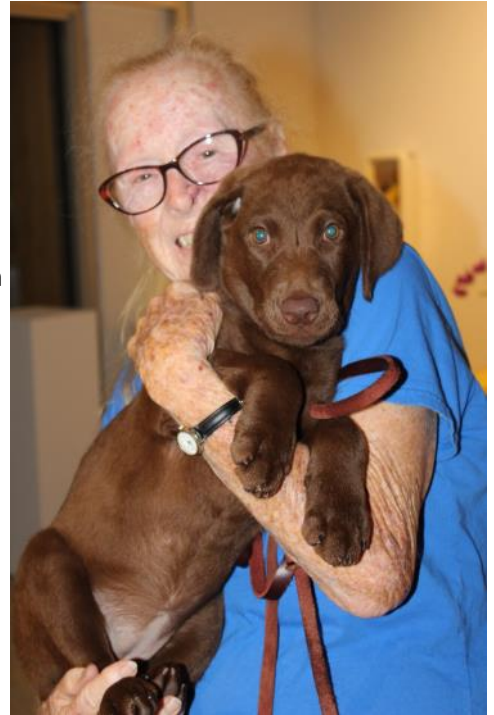
Membership Corner

I was about to have a sad face - because no one paid dues at the July Meeting and no one joined either but then our treasurer Randall sent me a text - WE GOT MAIL - in the mail was a Membership Application. The Board will be voting on the application at the August 16th Meeting.

As most of you found out the New 2023-2024 Roster was ready at the July Meeting. I'm going to bring the Rosters to the August Meeting and after that I will be mailing the rest of them to the members. Please check your information in the Roster - I try very hard to proof read everything - but I'm sure I could have missed something.

I hope to see you all at the Meeting on August 16th - Summer will be there with her latest Big Ribbon and I'll tag along as her driver. Please come out and support our Officers and Board Members. Bring your plants for Judging, Refreshments for sharing and come and hear a great Speaker. If you would like to work - we will find you something to help with.

Sally Taylor
Membership Chair



The South Florida Orchid Society has lost another of its "Beautiful Orchids" - on July 22, 2023 Georgia Tasker passed away. Georgia was 78. She retired years ago from her position as a garden writer for the Miami Herald. I know a lot of us in the SFOS as well as a lot of the people in south Florida - picked up the Herald to see what Georgia was talking about today.

Although I don't have the membership records that go back that far - I know Georgia has been a member of SFOS for many, many years. I was a member of the SFOS Board when we used to have Board Meetings in the members home - I remember going to the home of Georgia Tasker and Sandra Schultz and what a wonderful tour we got of their back yard - full of all kind of plants and many, many beautiful Orchids.

The South Florida Orchid Society extends our deepest sympathy to Sandra Schultz and the families and friends of Georgia Tasker.

Sally Taylor
Membership Chair
South Florida Orchid Society



Celebrating the Life of Georgia Tasker



Sunday, October 1, 2023

4 PM — 6 PM

In the Garden House

At Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

10901 Old Cutler Road

Miami, Florida 33156

RSVP now through September 15, 2023

sandraschultz1@me.com

If you would like to honor Georgia's memory, please consider a donation to the Humane Society of Greater Miami, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, World Wildlife Fund, or any other charity of your choice.

Judging Report for July 2023

Judges; Julie Rosenberg and Erna Maxwell

Blue Ribbons:

- Brat. Shelob - Maggie Echeverria
- Mcy. Lanny Morry 'Cahiz Yricoyen' - Maggie Echeverria
- Den. New Green - Steve Rodriguez
- Rlc. Alexandra Elisabeth (C. leopoldii v. alba x Rl. digbyana) - Steve Rodriguez
- Broanthevola (Btv.) Florida Sunset - David Foster

Red Ribbons:

- Enc. Cindy x Epi. adenocaula 'Big Star' - Maggie Echeverria
- Den. Sonia 'Earsakul' - Danny Gallardo
- Ctt. Miva Royal Chocolate - Danny Gallardo
- Rlc. Akiko Sato 'Volcano Queen' - Danny Gallardo
- Blc. Everything Nice 'Showtime' - Steve Rodriguez

- Myc. Cupid's Arrow - Steve Rodriguez
- V. Gnana Kumar (V. denisoniana V. dearei) - Steve Rodriguez
- V. Crystelle Smith (V. insignis x V. perplexa) - Steve Rodriguez

White Ribbons:

- Asc. Suksumran x V. Brighton's Moonbeam (Jiraprapa x Tubtim Velvet) - Steve Rodriguez

Culture Ribbons:

- Broanthevola (Btv.) Florida Sunset - David Foster

Thank you for showing your blooms. Please have your plants registered before 7:30 PM. Judging starts promptly at that time.

We look forward to more blooms at the August meeting.
Erna Maxwell, Judging Chair. Award Photos © Ron Hunt



Den. New Green - Steve Rodriguez



Broanthevola (Btv.) Florida Sunset - David Foster

Judging Report for July 2023



Rlc. Alexandra Elisabeth (*C. leopoldii* v. *alba* x *Rl. digbyana*)
Steve Rodriguez



Brat. Shelob - Maggie Echeverria



Mcy. Lanny Morry 'Cahiz Yricoyen' - Maggie Echeverria

July 2023 Meeting Photos

South Florida Orchid Society
"July 2023"
"Member of the Month"
"Ron Hunt"



Our Hard Working Judging Team!



July 2023 Meeting Photos



July 2023 Meeting Photos



Many Thanks to Annette and Steve Rodriguez for Treating us to Hotdogs With all the Fixins'!
You Guys Rock!



July 2023 Meeting Photos



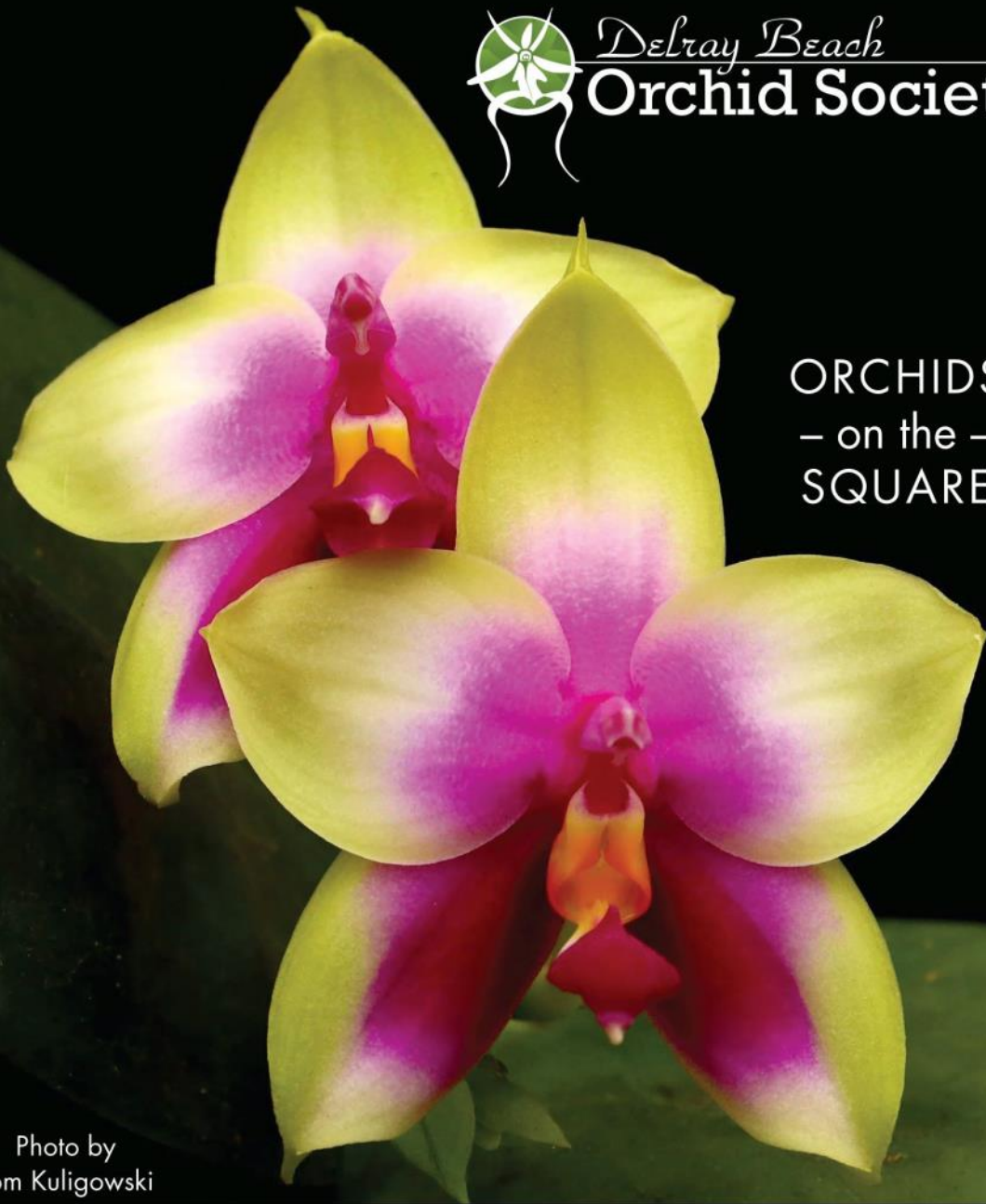
July 2023 Meeting Photos



Photos by Annette
Annette Rodriguez



Delray Beach
Orchid Society



ORCHIDS
– on the –
SQUARE

Photo by
Tom Kuligowski

Orchid Show & Sale

October 21 and 22

Sat and Sun 10-5pm • Admission \$5.00

Held Inside Old School Square Fieldhouse
51 N. Swinton Ave, Delray Beach 33444
(N. Swinton Ave and NE 1st Street)

www.DelrayBeachOrchidSociety.org
Call 561-573-2360 or 561-573-2422

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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 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 at
Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 Red Road
Pinecrest, FL 33156

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.



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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*