



# The Orchidist

The South Florida Orchid Society Newsletter

SFOS January 17<sup>th</sup> 2024 Program

## SERENA ROMAN, LADY VANDA

Lady Vanda Orchids is your premier online retailer, specializing in Vanda orchids. We aim to provide the highest quality orchid plants and cultivation education for our customer base.

Whether you are a newbie, or seasoned collector, we are here to help guide you and your growing endeavors. In addition to Vandas, we cultivate several other genera such as Paphiopedilum, Phragmipedium, Dendrobium and Cattleya. Customers are welcome to shop our online selection, message us with any questions or request recommendations based on your growing environment and experience.

Find us online at [www.ladyvanda.com](http://www.ladyvanda.com) or in person at OFE Sale Events and other Florida Orchid Shows.



**Serena will be speaking this month on the Cultivation of Paphiopedilum, and Phragmipedium orchids in South Florida.**

**She will also be providing plants for our Raffle table as well as having plants for Sale!**

### In Memorandum...

The SFOS is saddened to learn that we have lost three of our Life Members - **M.D. Reed, Jr.** (I'm sorry I don't know anything about him), **Robert Henley** - who was our Treasurer for a long time and **Dick Farwell** - who was a Past President. These three men were corner stones of the SFOS and I for one have good memories of them - I hope you do too!

It is with a heavy, heavy heart that I must tell you we have lost yet another of our 'Beautiful Orchids' - I was informed on January 4 that **Joyce Ritter** has passed away. We will miss Joyce very, very much and extend our Deepest Sympathy to her Family and Friends.

If you are reading this and know of anyone else we might have lost - that I have not written about - please let me know.

Sally Taylor  
Membership Chair



## President's Message

Hello all,

First off, I would like to start by wishing everyone a Happy New Year. I hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas holidays.

Last week, we assisted the Tamiami Orchid Show, at the youth fair pavilion. SFOS earned \$65 for each volunteer shift. Thanks to all the members who took a volunteer shift over the weekend.

This month's speaker will be Lady Vanda, Serena Roman who will be speaking on the cultivation of Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium orchids in South Florida. She will also be supplying plants for our raffle table and having plants for sale.

I'd like to remind members that it is important to participate in the silent auction by donating items and bidding on what is brought in. (Cash and checks are accepted, no credit cards.) I would also remind members to bring something for the refreshment table. Also, membership renewals are due this month. Please see Sally Taylor and bring your checks or cash to renew for the next year. Additionally, we'll be announcing the January recipient of the SFOS Member of the month, which recognizes members who contribute time to making SFOS a better orchid society.

On a sadder note, SFOS board member Joyce Ritter passed away. Please keep her and her sister Nancy Crisler, who is also on the SFOS board, in your prayers.

Please be sure to come to the meeting and make sure to take part in our silent auction, raffle, and judging. Members with blooming beauties are encouraged to bring them in. Please bring your blooming babies no later than 7:30pm as plants brought in after that time will not be eligible for judging due to time constraints.

Happy Growing,  
Javier Morejon



## **All MEMBERS**

are eligible to

## **RECEIVE COMPLIMENTARY**

Raffle tickets for the following categories:

- \*Membership
- \*Donating Refreshments
- \*Wearing SFOS Shirt
- \*Entering Plant(s) for Judging
- \*SFOS Members that are AOS Members

\*\*Members: (Please show your AOS Member Card)



## **SOUTH FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY MINI-AUCTION SERIES**

ALL PROCEEDS from items sold on the MINI-AUCTION  
go to South Florida Orchid Society for the  
benefit of the Society.

Members may donate plants or other items to benefit  
this fund-raising effort.

**We accept cash or checks only.**

Thank you for your support,  
The South Florida Orchid Society Board of Director's



## “BUY MORE TICKETS!”

Raffle tickets may be purchased with a \$1.00 donation per ticket.

Receive a complimentary

## “BONUS TICKET”

for each 5 tickets that you purchase!



## Membership Corner

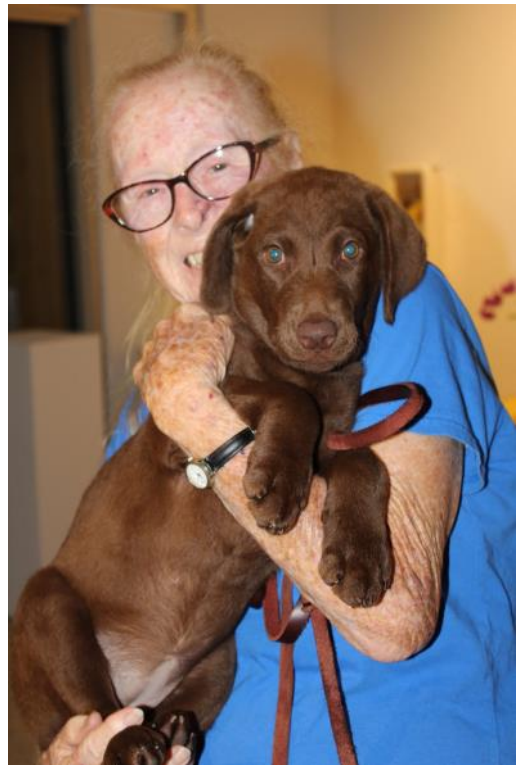
I'm so proud of the Members of the South Florida Orchid Society! I have gotten more membership renewals than I even expected - you all know how to keep me happy! I must also add that with the renewals I have already gotten - the SFOS has been gifted several donations - which I can't THANK those members enough for!

I must say we still have some that need to pay their dues. Chris will take your renewals at the January Meeting - as I will be out of town showing your Mascot - AKA Summer in Brooksville. When I get home, I will send Membership Badges to you in time for the February Meeting.

As always if you have a question - please call me or text me - I'll try to help you out.

On the personal side - I hope to be able to show Summer at the Dog Show in Miami at Tropical Park. There will be 2 shows on Saturday and 2 shows on Sunday - February 10 and 11. Summer would be happy to see you there. We will be staying on the show site in our RV - we would love to have you come by and see us.

Sally Taylor  
Membership Chair



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## Happy New Years from Chris Alger and all the Board Members and Special Directors

We had a really awesome speaker in November 2023. Xavier Cortada, a RENOWNED ARTIST and PROFESSOR braved the Wind & Rain of the "NO NAME STORM" and shared a very knowledgeable presentation on Climate Change and the effects of Sea Level Rise on our community. Annette Rodriguez has posted many photos for your review on Facebook.

In December 2023, SFOS Members and Guests gathered for our Annual Holiday Party at BERRIES IN THE GROVE. We enjoyed a wonderful meal and each Member was able to select a gift orchid plant provided by Carmela in Hawaii. Thank you Sheldon, for the beautiful selection of plants and also thank you to Sally Taylor for ordering the plants, delivering them to our Holiday Party, and her generous donation to cover the shipping cost.

Come join us at our January Membership Meeting. We have a couple of nice surprises, which will be available on the Silent Auction Table. Do not forget to wear your new 2024 Membership Badge.

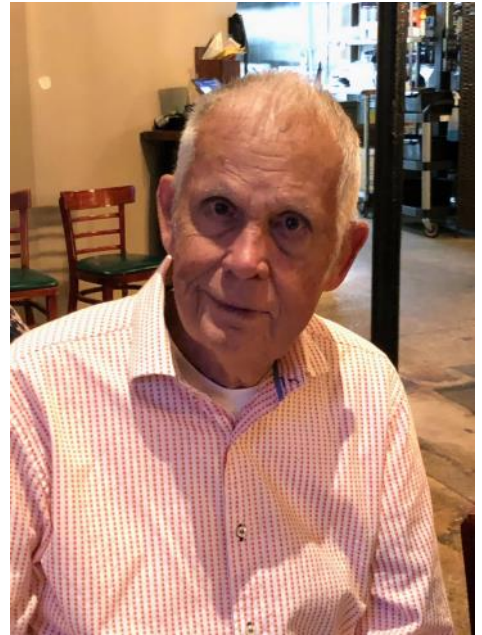
In closing, I would like to extend heartfelt condolences to SFOS Board Member Nancy Crisler on the loss of her beloved sister Joyce Ritter. We will all miss Joyce, and will always keep her smiling face in our memories. Joyce was a longtime SFOS Board Member. We hope to have a Memorial and photos of Joyce in our February 2024 Newsletter.

Sincerely,  
Chris Alger, Board Member

2023 Holiday Party Pictures!!



2023 Holiday Party Pictures!!





2023 Holiday Party Pictures!!



2023 Holiday Party Pictures!!



The People Who Help Make The Orchidist Possible

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Affiliated Society



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 at SFOS monthly meetings!



## South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

### Board of Directors

**President:** Javier Morejon

**1<sup>st</sup> VP:**—Sally Taylor

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

**CLICK THE ICON BELOW TO DOWNLOAD AN SFOS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION. (PDF)**



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

Ron Hunt — Editor, *The Orchidist*