



Celebrating 80 years!

The Orchidist

The South Florida Orchid Society Newsletter

SFOS June 18 2025 Program

The South Florida Orchid Society cordially invites all Members and Visitors to attend the 2025/2026 Installation of officers and board members.

This program will be held on our regular Wednesday meeting night, June 18th, 2025.

At this time incoming Officers and Board Members for the 2025/2026 term will officially take office.

Awards will also be presented by the SFOS Judging Chair to Members in several categories for plants those members submitted for judging during the 2024/2025 Judging Year.

Special certificates of Recognition will also be awarded to a number of SFOS members for their tireless commitment to the Society and in recognition of their invaluable Volunteer Service during the past year.

We look forward to seeing everyone at this special event recognizing our Award Winners and to join us in thanking our Volunteers for their service to the South Florid Orchid Society.



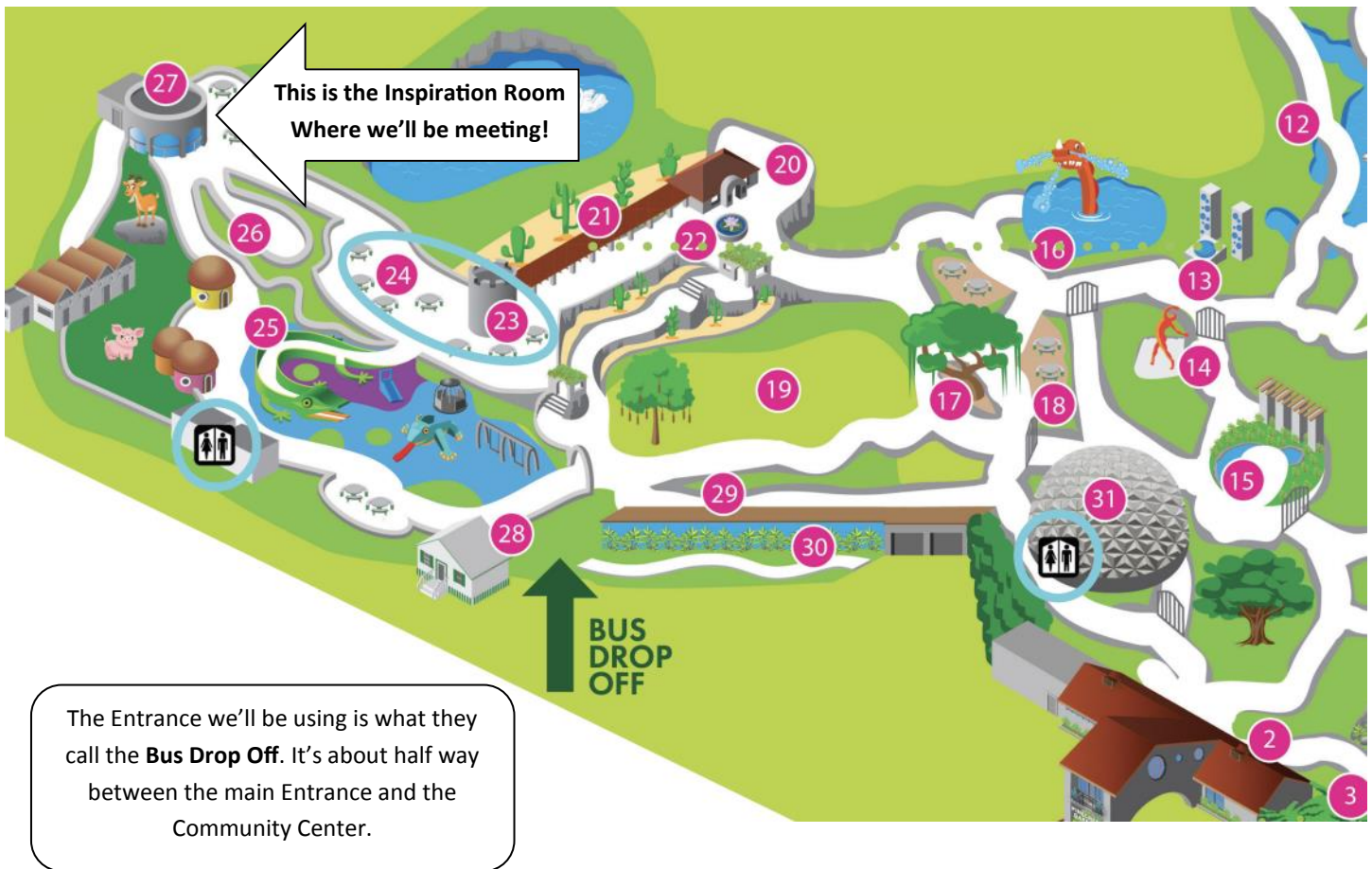
There will be NO SFOS Certified Judging this evening.

NEW MEETING LOCATION FOR THIS MONTH

The Inspiration Room at Pinecrest Gardens.

After the Award Presentation and Installation of Officers, we'll be having our popular Silent Auction, with proceeds going to help fund the South Florida Orchid Society. Then we'll be having a pot luck banquet and our usual plant raffle!

New Meeting Location at Pinecrest Gardens!



Bathrooms in venue

Kitchen/prep area

Unique circular indoor venue

Auto / Visual Capability in Room



We apologize for any inconvenience!

Dear Members and Friends of the South Florida Orchid Society,

It is with great excitement and deep gratitude that I begin this new chapter as President of the South Florida Orchid Society. SFOS is not only the oldest orchid society in Florida - it is a living legacy of passion, knowledge, and beauty that has brought people together for generations. At its height, this Society welcomed more than 1,500 members. And, while much has changed over the years, the spirit that built this community - one rooted in curiosity, care, and connection - remains as strong as ever.

As we move forward, my vision is built on three core priorities: Growth, Education, and Connection. We will grow not only orchids, but also our membership, our visibility in the community, and the depth of what we can offer each other as orchid enthusiasts. One of the simplest and most powerful ways we can begin? Bring a friend. Look around your neighborhood - you'll be surprised how many orchid lovers are quietly growing in backyards, patios, and kitchens just like yours. Let's invite them in.

Our monthly Orchid Auction is already a gem, and we will be growing it into a vibrant event - a space not just for bidding, but for gathering, laughing, and learning.

We'll also be debuting a new series at our monthly meetings: "Show & Grow", where members will highlight their personal collections and share divisions of our legendary large plants - some of which will be featured for the world to see on Instagram Live. It's time to take the beauty we've cultivated behind the scenes and share it boldly with our community and beyond.

But none of this can happen alone - We are a Group - A Society. Whether you've been a member for 30 years or just 30 days, your voice matters. Your energy matters. Together, we can turn our meetings into celebrations, our events into must-attend traditions, and our Society into a flourishing, welcoming community for all.

Let's make this a time of new blooms - for our orchids and for our Society.

With appreciation and purpose,

James Furst
President
South Florida Orchid Society

In Appreciation!

South Florida Orchid Society wishes to thank the following members who donated their time to work a shift at the recent **RARE PLANT FESTIVAL** held at TAMiami PARK on April 18th, 19th & 20th, 2025:

- ♦ ***Maggie Echeverria***
- ♦ ***Charles Flick***
- ♦ ***Javier Morejon***
- ♦ ***Charles Asche***
- ♦ ***Teresa Prol***
- ♦ ***Virginia (Vicky) Benitez***
- ♦ ***Barry White***
- ♦ ***Jenny Brown***



South Florida Orchid Society received a \$520.00 donation and each Volunteer Member was given free admission to the show on the day of their shift and, also entered for a chance to win in a special Volunteers Raffle.

Donating your time was very generous and is appreciated by the South Florida Orchid Society and, also by the Motes Family which produces the event.

The next REDLAND INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL will be held on October 17th, 18th and 19th, 2025 at the FRUIT AND SPICE PARK. Please remember to mark this date on your calendar and consider signing up to volunteer on behalf of The South Florida Orchid Society to work a shift at this event.

Sincerely,

Chris Alger, on behalf of the South Florida Orchid Society Board of Directors

Membership Corner

Hello All! I hope your summer has started out good. Summer and I (and Skeeter) are still in VA - until June 8th. By the time you read this we will be in Tampa.

I have been working on the Roster - hopefully it will be done and ready for you in July. However - I still have some of you who I have not gotten renewals from - if I don't have your information and check before the meeting on June 18th - YOU MAY NOT BE IN THE ROSTER.

In case I don't see you at the meeting on June 18th - please have a great and safe summer!

Sally Taylor

Membership Chair



SOUTH FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY now has Shirts available! A beautiful Royal Blue!

Ladies V neck Cotton (a little lighter in color - but still blue)

- Sm, Med, L, or XL at \$18.25
- 2XL at \$19.25
- 3XL at \$21.50

Ladies or Men's - Polo - in either Polyester or Cotton

- Sm, Med, L, or XL at \$25.75
- 2XL at \$26.75
- 3XL at \$28.00



The shirts can be seen at our meetings and orders placed at that time. All shirts must be paid for when ordered. Watch an up-coming newsletter for a good reason to wear your new shirts to the meetings.

SUMMER'S CORNER

Since I got to see you all in April - Mom has taken me all kinds of places. We were in Lumberton, NC - where I got Ribbons but not any of the big ones Mom likes. Then we went to Perry, GA - I've been there before - there I got more ribbons and on Sunday, May 11 - Mother's Day - I finally got Mom one of the Big Owner Handler Ribbons - a Group 4. Then we went to Fort Myers for 6 shows in 4 days. I got ribbons there - but no big ones. We moved on to Fletcher, NC and again I got no big ribbons until Monday, Memorial Day and I made Mom happy with another Big Owner Handler Group 4 Ribbon. We are now in Fishersville, VA - and I have not gotten any big ribbons yet! I can always hope. I was a little sick on May 29th and had to go to the Vets - but I got some pills to take and everything was better in a week - I'm ok now!

See you all on June 18th! Hope I can get more ribbons to show you.

Summer





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

SFOS May 2025 Judging Report

Judges: Julie Rosenberg, Javier Morejon and Erna Maxwell

Blue Ribbons:

- Oncidium Tropic Breeze "Everglades" - Jamie Furst
- Max. tenuifolia - Maggie Echeverria
- C. warneri - Charles Asche
- Gram. multiflorum - Teresa Prol
- Rly. Suncoast Raspberry Cooler - Aida Walchli
- V. tessellata x PuTarn x V. Yip Sum Wah x Dr. Anek "Orange Brown" - Aida Walchli

Thank you for showing your Blooms. **There will be no judging in June.** We look forward to your beauties in July.

Erna Maxwell, Judging Chair.

Award Photos by and Copyright © 2025 Ron Hunt



Gram. multiflorum - Teresa Prol



V. tessellata x PuTarn x V. Yip Sum Wah x Dr. Anek "Orange Brown" - Aida Walchli



Rly. Suncoast Raspberry Cooler - Aida Walchli



Max. tenuifolia - Maggie Echeverria



Oncidium Tropic Breeze "Everglades" - Jamie Furst



C. warneri - Charles Asche

May 2025 Meeting Photos



Our incoming Officers and Board Members for the 2025/2026 term (Photo Courtesy Berry White)



Yolanda Cuesta with Program Chair Don McDermott and President Javier Morejon. Photo Courtesy Chris Alger

Yolanda gave a master class on Cattleya Division at our May 2025 meeting. As you can see from the photographs, she had no trouble keeping everyone's attention.

It's always a joy when she drops by to sprinkle some of her orchid wisdom on our unsuspecting members!

May 2025 Meeting Photos!



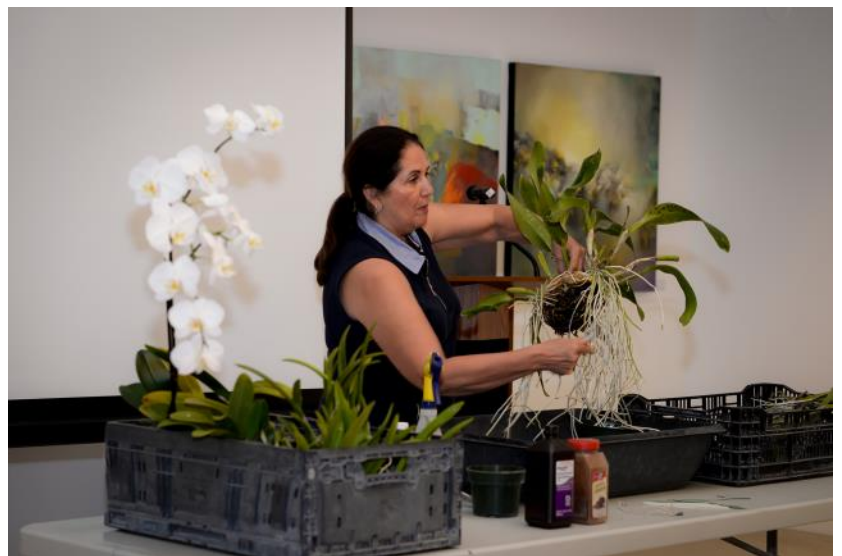
May 2025 Meeting Photos!



Say "Hi!" to our new V.P. and Membership Chair,
Margaret Marshall!!



May 2025 Meeting Photos!



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"

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

Pick up your copy today at
better orchid Growers or at
SFOS Meetings!



South Florida Orchid Society, Inc. Board of Directors

President: James Furst

V.P. (Membership): Margaret Marshall

Program Director: Don McDermott

Secretary: Nancy Crisler

Treasurer: Randall Breitwisch

Directors, Terms ending in 2026

Erna Maxwell, Sally Taylor

Directors, Term ending in 2027

Maggie Echeverria, Charles Asche

Directors, Term ending in 2028

Charles Flick, Martin Rivas

Immediate Past President: Javier Morejon

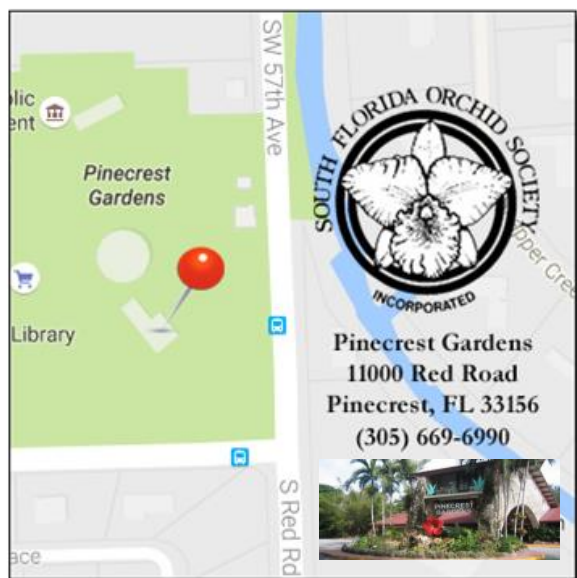
Special Directors: Ron Hunt & Julie Rosenberg

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

Orchid registration begins at 7:00PM.

No plants will be registered after 7:30PM

Program begins at 8:PM



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! .**
- **ORCHID 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.
Affiliated Society

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Please visit our website at sforchid.com where you can find both current and past issues of The Orchidist.

Ron Hunt, editor