



# *Celebrating 80 years!* The Orchidist

The South Florida Orchid Society Newsletter

SFOS October 15 2025 Program

## **AOS President, Cheryl Erins** **“A New Home for the Little Guys”** **Vertical Terrariums**

We're very excited to welcome AOS President, Cheryl Erins to our October South Florida Orchid Society Meeting! Cheryl will be giving a lecture on growing orchids (and other plants) in terrariums, which is something most of us living here in the worlds largest terrarium probably seldom think of. However, given how dry our indoor conditions can be with air conditioners running year round, a new home for the little guys isn't such a bad idea. Actually, it's pretty fascinating! I'm looking forward to this lecture!

Cheryl has been growing orchids for over 25 years. She is a certified Orchid Judge in the Chicago Judging Center and where she serves as Treasurer. She is also Secretary of the MidAmerica Orchid Congress also serving on the Education Committee where she helps coordinate the many webinars that the AOS presents. She is a member of the Batavia Orchid Society, Batavia, Illinois and has been its president for three terms.



**Cheryl Erins**

Photo Courtesy of the AOS

Cheryl loves speaking to various groups about growing orchids and the value it brings to our lives. She is semi-retired, a member of the Three Rivers Women's Club and the Club of Little Gardens, both non-profit organizations dedicated to community outreach and service as well as donate time to the Food Pantry of Three Rivers. She is also the choir director for our small local Latvian choir, which performs extensively in the Midwest as well as a member and soloist of the church choir.



## ***SFOS Annual Holiday Party***



**This year we will be holding our annual Holiday Party at the Montgomery Botanical Center in Coral Gables, FL.**

Details are still being worked out but this is sure to be an amazing party.

Get ready for a magical evening at this beautiful location, surrounded by lush greenery, a welcoming room that opens onto the gardens, and even golf cart rides to whisk you in (or a lovely stroll if you would rather walk). We will have delicious food, laughter, and orchids everywhere. What a perfect way to wrap up the year together. We will have much more information at the October Members Meeting and in next months newsletter!

## President's Message

### **Dear South Florida Orchid Society Members and Friends,**

October has been one of those months where it feels like our orchids have spent more time bathing than blooming! With all the rain we've had, our growing benches look more like little jungles, the cattleyas are bursting with life, the dendrobiums are showing off new growth, and the vandas seem to be loving every drop. It's a perfect reminder that orchids, much like us, thrive best when we adapt to whatever Mother Nature sends our way.

As we gather this month, I want to encourage everyone to bring a friend to our meetings. Every new guest helps keep our passion blooming, and who knows, they might just leave as our newest member!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 15th at 8:00 PM in the Hibiscus Gallery at Pincrest Gardens. I'm looking forward to another evening of learning, sharing, and enjoying the beauty of orchids together.

We're thrilled to announce that our October meeting will feature a very special guest:

### **Cheryl Erins President, American Orchid Society**

Cheryl will be in South Florida for the Redland International Orchid Show and has graciously agreed to visit our society to give an exciting presentation on vertical terrariums, titled **"A new home for the little guys."** Vertical terrariums are a creative and increasingly popular way to grow and display orchids and other plants, allowing orchid growers in any weather to adapt conditions for their favorite orchids. Her talk promises to be both informative and inspiring, offering fresh ideas for orchid enthusiasts of all experience levels. Do not miss this wonderful opportunity to meet the AOS President in person and learn from her expertise!

### **BIG HOLIDAY PARTY NEWS!**

#### **Our Annual Holiday Party will be at The Montgomery Botanical Center.**

Get ready for a magical evening at this beautiful location, surrounded by lush greenery, a welcoming room that opens onto the gardens, and even golf cart rides to whisk you in (or a lovely stroll if you would rather walk). We will have delicious food, laughter, and orchids everywhere. What a perfect way to wrap up the year together. We will have much more information at the October Members Meeting!

I also wanted to extend a large thank you to everyone who donates plants to our auction! Your generosity keeps the Society thriving and makes our meetings so much more fun. Whether you're bringing your favorite orchids to share or bidding to take home new treasures, every contribution helps support our programs, grow our community, and keep the excitement alive.

Warm regards,  
James Furst  
President  
South Florida Orchid Society



## **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, checks and Zelle only.**

Thank you for your support,  
The South Florida Orchid Society Board of Directors

## SFOS September 2025 Judging Report

Judges: Sally Taylor, Julie Rosenberg, Javier Morejon and Erna Maxwell

### Blue Ribbons:

- Myc. Mem. Louise Fuchs AM/AOS - Charles Flick
- Den. Airy New Normal - Melissa Alatrisme
- Paph. concolor - Javier Morejon
- C. labiata Pink SBOE - Charles Asche
- V. Arthorn "Sunset" HCC/AOS - Charles Asche

### Red Ribbons:

- V. Lou Sneary "Bluebird" JCC/AOS - Melissa Alatrisme
- Den. Red Huge - Melissa Alatrisme
- Lc. Schilleriana "Paradise Blue" - Melissa Alatrisme

Thank you for showing your blooms. We look forward to more beauties in October. Please have your plants entered before 7:30PM.

Erna Maxwell, Judging Chair.

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Paph. concolor - Javier Morejon



V. Arthorn "Sunset" HCC/AOS - Charles Asche



C. labiata Pink SBOE - Charles Asche



Den. Airy New Normal - Melissa Alatraste

## SFOS September 2025 Judging Report



Myc. Mem. Louise Fuchs AM/AOS - Charles Flick

## Meeting Photos!



Dr. Juraj Kojš gave a very interesting lecture on developing an orchid collection at our September 2025 meeting.

## Meeting Photos!



There are always good deals on our mini auction table!



Some of our member plants presented for judging!

### South Florida Orchid Society

Membership Shirts Available in 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 \$21.95

#### 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



Shirts can be seen and ordered at our meetings. All shirts must be paid for when ordered.  
Remember to wear your shirts to our meetings for a special perk!

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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:** Martin Rivas

**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, Ariel Girardi

**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 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  
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Ron Hunt, editor