

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 63 Issue 12

December 2013

DECEMBER: HOLIDAY PARTY

We don't have a regular meeting in December but join us for:

FORT LAUDERDALE ORCHID SOCIETY HOLIDAY PARTY

Where: The Tower Club
28th Floor, Regions Bank Building
One Financial Plaza
100 SE 3rd. Ave
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

When: December 8, 2013
6:00—10:00 PM

How much: Members \$45 - Guests \$55

There will be a raffle and gifts!!!

IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT YOUR MONEY IN FOR A RESERVATION CALL GINNY—954-532-7637—We still have room!



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!!

- December 8: Holiday Party at the Tower Club
- January 13: Sheldon Takaski from Carmela Orchids
- January 17-19: FLOS Show & Sale
- February 10: Broward Orchid Supplies—Re-potting & Mounting
- March 10: Guillermo Salazar—Miniatures for South Florida
- April 14: Mac Rivenbark—Dendrobiums



Blc. Cherry Suisse 'Kauai'; HCC/AOS -Kthy Homann—
photo by Bob Stroozas

November Speaker: Tom Kuligowski

Our November speaker brought us out of the shadows and into the light. Tom Kuligowski explained that light has everything to do with how well our orchids will grow. Basically, orchid light falls into three categories: vandaceous, Cattleya, and phalaenopsis light. Tom has found that light meters are able to give exact measurements, however the devices only last for 8-10 months. Most digital cameras have light meters as well. A low-tech tool for measuring light is simply using a sheet of white paper and the sun. Hold your hand a short distance from the paper and exam the edges around the shadow. A hard line and a clear dark shadow, is Vandaceous lighting or lighting greater than 5000-foot candles. Cattleya light fades the shadow and no clear line along the shadow edge exists, Cattleya light is 2000 foot candles or brighter. Little or no shadow appears on the white paper in Phalaenopsis light, 475-foot candles.



Also Tom gave us his good blog about Angraecums and What's Light got to do with it?

Measuring Light

ALTHOUGH there are light meters that can be used to measure the light in your orchid growing areas they can be confusing to use. An easy way to determine the brightness of your growing area is to use a white sheet of paper or white illustration board or foam core. Hold your hand about 8-10 inches (20-25 cm) above the white card on a bright day when the sun is shining fully. Use the illustrations shown here as guides.

FULL SUN Notice the dark shadow with a hard edge.
BRIGHT Shadow has a soft edge, is lighter. Approximately 35-40 percent shade cloth.

FILTERED LIGHT Soft edge, open shadows. Approximately 50-60 percent shade cloth.
SHADY BRIGHT Very soft, gray shadow. Approximately 70 percent shade cloth.
FULL SHADE Blurry shadow, difficult to recognize the object in the shadow.

How can we control the variable of light? Shade cloth is an excellent tool for controlling light in our grow houses. Tom recommends using aluminet shade cloth. The high-tech cloth reflects light during the summer keeping plants cooler and absorbs light during winter keeping plants warmer. Consider 70% and up to 50% layered over 50% as appropriate cover for Phalaenopsis, Liparis, Bulbophyllums, Angrecums and Aerangis. Some Cattleya, and Brassavola can tolerate 30% shade cloth and most tolerate the mid range weave density. Vandas and Dendrobiums prefer 5000 up to 8000-foot candles, so a low weave count of 30% is recommended. As we near the winter solstice, take a moment to: read the shadows amongst your orchid collections, and informally or formally measure the light intensity. Observe the sunlight throughout the year and change lighting to meet our orchids needs. Planning for how the light changes in your collect during the year can mean the difference between raising robust orchids and orchids that just barely get by. Light means everything. (By Gigi Granger)



Vanda photo by Steve Herman



Photo by Bob Stroozas

Orchid Hybrid Trivia From AOS.org.

The total number of grex names in the register is currently 154,660 (as of now). This figure increases daily. Each year The International Orchid Register adds between 3000-4000 new hybrids. The most popular genera for hybrids are:

- Phalaenopsis — 31,382
- Paphiopedilum — 23,871
- Cymbidium — 14,688
- Dendrobium — 11,910

So far there are about 2349 hybrid generic names, but not all of these are in use. There are about 5,600 species involved in hybridization.

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society

Fakahatchee Strand Walk

On November 9th, 2013, a busload of curious swampers departed Ft. Lauderdale for a day trip to the cool flowing waters of the Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park, in search of the native orchid species that populate the area. It was an experience to simply navigate the seven mile bus ride on the narrow road leading to the starting point of the trek, and not unlike hitting turbulence on a plane. There were a few mud holes on that old railroad bed that were hungry for our bus, and it seemed we narrowly escaped the jaws of calamity several times. But once safe and sound at our staging area, the only anxiety was getting back out the same way we entered. Those fears were quickly allayed by the excitement of dipping our feet into the Fakahatchee itself, and the hopes of finding elusive orchids that we only read about, or see pictures of. We were not disappointed, for immediately upon entering the fringes of the swamp, we struck gold in the form of many varieties of native species, some in bloom, some not, and some with seed pods, ready to spread the wealth throughout the Strand. At this point, we were mildly concerned about some other types of jaws, which never really materialized well, almost save for one swamper, who decided to test a sunning 'log' on the path back to the bus to see if it was asleep or not. Thanks to a walking stick and a hiss, an immediate detour was taken incident averted stride unbroken pants already wet from the swamp. Time to have some lunch then run the seven mile gauntlet back to the mainland, which we did without issues. Once on pavement again, we felt that we needed to reward ourselves with an excursion to the Stone Crab capital of Collier County, none other than Everglades City. We found our crabs, reloaded, and headed home satisfied that a good time was had by all. I would like to thank all who attended, as well as Mike and Donna Owen, the newlywed Park Biologists at the Fakahatchee Strand, as well as Volunteers P.J. Marinelli and Karen, who helped lead our tour into and out of the swamp itself. Also gracious thanks to our own Chuck McCartney for helping with the tour and compiling the list of orchids we encountered along the way. Looking forward to doing it again! Sincerely, **Capt. Allen Cogar**

Orchids

(And Other Tropical Plants)
Observed October 26, 2013
Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park

List Compiled by **Chuck McCartney, Mike Owen, Richard Fagan**
(With Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society)

Orchids

1. ***Campylocentrum pachyrrhizum***
Common names: Ribbon Orchid; Little Bent-Spur Orchid
Status: Some with seed capsules.
Notes: The rarest of Florida's 3 leafless orchid species. South Slough group led by Mike Owen observed all 3 species.
2. ***Dendrophylax lindenii***
Synonyms: *Polyrrhiza lindenii*; *Polyradicion lindenii*
Common names: Ghost Orchid; Palm Polly
Notes: The most famous of Florida's 3 leafless orchid species, which are relatives of the African angraecoids.
3. ***Dendrophylax porrectus***
Synonyms: *Harrisella porrecta*; *Harrisella filiformis* (misapplied)
Common names: Jingle Bell Orchid; Threadroot Orchid
Status: Some with flowers.
Notes: The smallest of Florida's 3 leafless orchid species. The flowers are also the smallest of the common species in subtropical Florida.
4. ***Encyclia tampensis***
Synonym: *Epidendrum tampense*
Common names: Onion Orchid; Florida Butterfly Orchid
Notes: The most common epiphytic (tree-growing) orchid in subtropical Florida.
5. ***Epidendrum anceps***
Synonym: *Epidendrum amphistomum*
Common names: Roller Coaster Orchid; Dingy-Flowered Orchid
Status: South Slough group saw one early-blooming plant with 3 flowers. Other plants were in spike.
6. ***Epidendrum nocturnum***
Common name: Night-Scented Epidendrum
Status: Some plants with seed capsules. West Slough group led by P.J. Marinelli saw one plant with a maturing flower bud.
Notes: One of the 2 most common *Epidendrum* species of South Florida and the one with the largest flowers. The majority of plants in Florida produce cleistogamous (closed) flowers that pollinate themselves within the bud and go directly to seed without the flowers opening.



Photo by Sabra Cogar

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7. *Epidendrum rigidum*

Common name: Rigid Epidendrum

Status: South Slough group only saw plants with seed capsules. West Slough group observed at least one plant with open flowers.

Notes: An orchid only an orchid grower could love. It is a small plant with small, uninteresting green flowers. It is one of the 2 most common *Epidendrum* species in South Florida, sometimes forming large colonies on tree branches.

8. *Eulophia alta*

Common name: Wild Coco

Status: One robust plant seen in flower along Janes Scenic Drive, producing a typically tall inflorescence filled with handsome 1.5-inch-tall flowers. Sterile (non-flowering) plants seen elsewhere.

9. *Eulophia graminea*

Status: Small colony seen in flower growing on a floating log by Richard Fagan, Christopher Ohanian and Mike Owen at the end of the day, after the Fort Lauderdale group had left. The site was across the tram ditch beside Janes Scenic Drive.

Notes: This is a small-flowered, large-bulbed species from Southeastern Asia that has shown up only recently in Florida and is spreading rapidly. It is considered an invasive exotic, and the plants seen were removed. This species is more often a plant of roadsides and disturbed areas (including mulched landscaping beds), and Mike Owen says this discovery is the first time he has encountered the species in the kind of swamp habitat where it was found.

10. *Habenaria floribunda*

Synonym: *Habenaria odontopetala*

Common name: Tooth-Petal Rein Orchid

Status: South Slough group saw one robust plant in full bloom growing on a floating log. Smaller sterile (non-flowering) plants also were seen.

Notes: This is the most common *Habenaria* species in the southern half of Florida.

11. *Ionopsis utricularioides*

Common names: Violet Orchid; Delicate Ionopsis

Status: South Slough group came upon a colony of these twig epiphytes. One particularly large plant that had fallen out of a tree bore an emerging flower stalk. The plant was secured to a new support to keep it out of the water of the swamp.

12. *Liparis nervosa*

Synonym: *Liparis elata*

Common names: Elephant-Ear Orchid; Tall Twayblade

Status: West Slough group saw this orchid with seed capsules.

13. *Oeceoclades maculata*

Synonym: *Eulophidium maculatum*

Common names: African Spotted-Leaf Orchid; Monk Orchid

Status: Plants, many with seed capsules, seen along the tramways.

Notes: This African-centered terrestrial orchid was first seen in Florida in the 1970s. Since that time, it has spread rapidly through the southern end of the peninsula.

14. *Polystachya concreta*

Synonyms: *Polystachya luteola*; *Polystachya flavescens*

Common name: Yellow Spikes

Status: South Slough group found one colony. No plants were in flower.

15. *Ponthieva racemosa*

Common name: Shadow Witch

Status: Mike Owen showed some of the group a large colony growing along the edge of Janes Scenic Drive. At least some members of the West Slough group saw plants.

16. *Prosthechea cochleata*

Synonyms: *Epidendrum cochleatum*; *Encyclia cochleata*; *Anacheilium cochleatum*

Common names: Clamshell Orchid; Cockleshell Orchid

Status: A number of plants seen in flower.

Notes: Florida's plants of this widespread New World orchid are a triandrous mutation, which allows them to be self-pollinating. In the past, these plants have been called var. *triandra*, referring to this mutation, which produces 2 extra pollen-bearing anthers that allow the flower's pollen to reach its own stigmatic surface, thus circumventing the rostellum, a little flap of tissue that prevents flowers of typical forms from pollinating themselves.

Bromeliad

1. *Guzmania monostachia*
2. *Tillandsia balsibiana*
3. *Tillandsia fasciculata*
4. *Tillandsia pruinosa* (rare)
5. *Tillandsia recurvata*

6. *Tillandsia setacea*
7. *Tillandsia usneoides*
8. *Tillandsia utriculata*
9. *Tillandsia variabilis*

Epiphytic Ferns

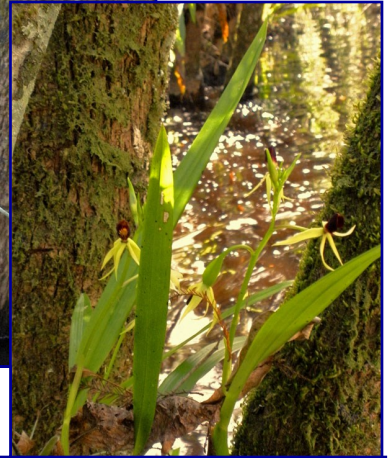
1. *Campyloneurum phyllitidis*
Broad-Leaf Strap Fern
2. *Phlebodium aureum*
Golden Serpent Fern
3. *Pleopeltis polypodioides*
Resurrection Fern

Other Interesting Species

1. *Peperomia obtusifolia*
2. Freshwater sponges
3. Dead Man's Finge



Photos by Sabra Cogar



FLOS MEMBER'S PAGE

Membership Update: As 2014 approached, please do not forget to pay your membership dues. For your convenience, a renewal envelope has been included with your newsletter. Dues can also be paid online at <http://www.flos.org>

Museum Update: Volunteers Needed for December 14th & 15th: FLOS will be hosting another classroom at The Museum of Discovery and Science next month. We can use some help with set up Saturday at 11 AM. The shifts are from 12-2 and 2-4 on both Saturday and Sunday. Tear down starts at 4 on Sunday. I am in need of help for all shifts and any blooming plants to be used for the display. Call Gigi Granger or Chris Crepage for more information and to sign up to help with this important event!!!

2014 SHOW AND SALE

JEWEL CASE EXHIBITS: We have two Jewel Case Exhibit spots left for the 2014 FLOS SHOW! Each case is 2' wide x 2' deep x 4' high. Members interested should contact John Wrench as soon as possible at 954-812-2231

TWO GRAND CHAMPIONS FOR BEST IN SHOW: New to our FLOS Show this coming January we will be awarding two Grand Champions for best Orchids in the show. One for Best Hobbyist's orchid and one for best Commercial Grower's orchid. Each will be singled out by the official American Orchid Society judges and awarded a Grand Prize Rosette Ribbon and a check for **\$250.00!** Entries must be made on Wednesday January 15th, at the War Memorial Auditorium from 3 pm to 8 pm. So get your orchids ready to win that grand prize and good luck! If you don't enter you can't win!

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

2014 Show Volunteers needed! To ensure our 2014 Annual Show and Sale is a success we all need to be involved (besides, its fun!) Society Members are what makes this one of the best shows in the country and we want to maintain that status!!! It is easy to get involved:

You can either sign up online at <http://www.flos.org/wp/signup> or call John Wrench at 954-812-2231

BLUE Ribbon Winners for November

ORCHID	OWNER
Ascda Motes 'Burnign Sands'	Zoe Bejar
<i>B. nodosa</i>	Bob Stroozas
BC Makai	Zoe Bejar.
BLC Waianae Leopard x BL Richard Mueller	Rick Bellas
BLC Cherry Suisse Kauai Heciaos	Kathy Homann
BLLRA Wine Spots 'New Star'	Francis Buckley
<i>C. wackeriana</i> tipo	Tony Millet
<i>B. digbyana</i>	Kathy Homann
Enc. boothiani	Tom Kuligowski
Onc. Josephine	Zoe Bejar
Sophrenitis cernua	Tony Millet
V. lamellate var. boxalii Rose am/aos x V. lamellota Margaret Ann	Helen Rivenbark

Photos by Steve Herman



We need Volunteers for the show!

We can't put on the greatest orchid show in south Florida without our wonderful volunteers. There are several categories to choose from. Talk to John or go on line for more information and to **sign up!**

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Please support our advertisers. They help pay for the expense of this newsletter.
 Thank you.

Thank you kitchen volunteers Kathy Homann, Deb Johnson & Fran Renguso. Our September refreshments were provided by:

Chris Crepage, Lisa Davis, Carrie Ackerman, Tony Millet, John Wrench, Deb Johnson, Kathy Homann,

Vicki Trank, Betty Runde, Zoe Bejar & Joan Connors

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society
 PO Box 4677
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33338



Regular Meetings: Second Monday of each month
 Time: 7:30 pm
 Place: Christ Lutheran Church Social Hall
 1955 East Oakland Park Blvd.
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306

Directions: From I 95 take East Oakland Park Blvd. for 2.4 miles, turn left on NE 20th Ave.
 Or take US -1 (Federal Hwy.) to Oakland Park Blvd. west for two blocks, turn north on NE 20th Ave.
 20th Ave.
 Park in the rear of the church which is on the NW corner of Oakland Park Blvd. and NE 20th Ave.

President: Michael Schaberl
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