

The Orchid



Scentinel

JUNE 2023

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ISSUE 6



MEETINGS

THE SOCIETY MEETS ON THE SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:30 PM.

Location:

Safe Schools Institute
1790 NW Spanish River
Blvd. Boca Raton, FL
33433

Guests are Always Welcome!

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Featuring~

Speaker: Jim Davison

Topic: The Four Horseman: Mainstays for Breeding of Orchid Families

Date: June 8, 2023

Jim Davison will bring his extensive knowledge about orchid hybridizing to us on June 8. He will bring plants for sale at our meeting.

Jim and Melana Davison are AOS Accredited Judges. They have an extensive and diverse orchid collection that seems to be continuously growing. Not only involved in caring for their orchids, they are actively involved in several South Florida orchid societies. Melana is the current President of the Orchid Society of Coral Gables and past President of the South Dade Amateur Orchid Club. Jim is the past President of the Orchid Society of Coral Gables and the East Everglades Orchid Society.

Jim's appreciation for orchids stems from his scientific background. Before his recent retirement, he worked as a Nuclear Chemistry Manager at the Turkey Point Nuclear Power Plant. Melana is more interested in the aesthetic qualities of orchids, especially the ones that look strange and other worldly. She owns her own Orchid Maintenance business and is known as "The Orchidiva." They are currently preparing a new greenhouse and shade area and have their own retail nursery, Jim-N-I Orchids.. Together, Jim and Melana have 7 grown children and five grandchildren. They live in Homestead with their 2 dogs, four of the five grandchildren and 5,000 plus orchids in their own collection, many more in the nursery.



Jim & Melana Davison

Janice Larit
Vice President, Programs

Coming Attractions

July 13— Swap & Shop (Only Orchid Related)

August 10— Mounting/Repotting Part 1

Contact US

Web: www.brosonline.org, Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/bocaorchid> Email: rcdodes@aol.com



PRESIDENT

**Kathy Kersey
954-802-3575**

VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS

**Janice Larit
917-566-9222**

VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP

**Abby Diab
561-843-0999**

**TREASURER
Veronica Risko
561-391-5019**

RECORDING SECRETARY

**Janice Larit
917-566-9222**

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

**Barbara Barrie
561-998-3335**

**DIRECTORS
Alan LaDuke
561-789-2465**

**Teresa O'Neil
765-592-1386**

**Steve Miller
954-868-8506**

LIBRARIAN

**Debbie Siegel
561-445-3759**

PHOTOGRAPHER & WEB

**Scott Joffe
561-289-2144**

EDITOR

**Cheryl Dodes
516-521-9687**

The BROS is the proud recipient
of the DASSA Award.



From President Kathy Kersey

I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

I hope everyone had a great Memorial Day, thank you to all of you that served, and we appreciate your dedication.

I can't believe it's June already. The year is flying by, and the rainy season is upon us. I'm sure your plants and yards are appreciating God's water, and like I always say, "God's water is so much better for our plants than our city water".

I hope your repotting was successful and remember, we will be having our Swap & Shop in July. If you have any divisions you want to sell, that is the time. Remember you get to keep 100% of your profit. For our July meeting let's try to keep it to anything ORCHID related... plants, pots, mounting supplies, artwork, books, etc. We will have a sign-up sheet at our June meeting. We need to know how many tables to set up. It's always a great time.

For those of you that went on the bus trip to the Redlands Orchid show at Fruit & Spice park, I hope you had a great time. I have to say, it's nice leaving the driving to someone else. We were joined by members from the Boca Raton Garden Club and Deerfield Beach Orchid Society. It was great meeting all of them, and for those of you that brought a friend, it was great meeting them as well. Maybe we will get some new members for our Society. We had a raffle on our return trip and lots of snacks to eat. Thank you again for joining us on our first bus trip since the pandemic. A big THANK YOU to Abby Diab for organizing the entire trip. We were able to get free entry and a raffle ticket, all included in your \$45.00. Great job Abby!!!

We talked about doing another bus trip in January to Tamiami; we will keep you posted on the progress.

I hope you can join us on June 8 for Jim Davison. He will be speaking on the 'Four Horsemen'. We had him do this presentation when we were doing ZOOM meetings, and I can't wait to see it in person. He will also be selling plants at our meeting, so come prepared to shop.

We were also able to purchase the NEW 2nd edition of Florida Orchid Growing by Dr. Martin Motes, and they will be available for purchase at our June meeting as well.

Remember, Summer is upon us...Get out early to water your orchids, stay hydrated and don't get over heated.

See you on June 8th, and thank you for being a part of the Boca Raton Orchid Society,
Kathy

Membership

FIRST YEAR

SINGLE \$25.00
COUPLE \$35.00
BUSINESS: \$40.00
Newsletter Emailed

RENEWAL

SINGLE \$20.00
COUPLE \$25.00
BUSINESS \$40.00
Newsletter Emailed

CONTACT:

Abby Diab
561-843-0999

MAIL CHECKS TO:

Boca Raton Orchid Society
PO Box 276367
Boca Raton, FL 33427

Tasks for June

by Dr. Martin Motes

June is the most dramatically tropical month in South Florida. As the southeast Trade Winds blow cool moist air off the Gulf Stream daily, as surely the heating effect of the center of the peninsula percolates up massive thunder heads. The increased cloud cover drawing a veil across the afternoon sun provides much cooling relief for our plants late in the day. Because of this additional cloud cover, our plants are less stressed than in the brightest of May sunshine. The increased humidity makes June feel hotter to us, but this humidity brings blessed balm to our plants from the unrelentingly dry heat of late spring. The shading clouds are also the harbinger of the almost daily rains that arrive like clockwork with the thunderstorms that re-circulate the moisture laden air back toward the ocean in the afternoon. These showers can drop the temperature 10-12 degrees in almost no time, again bring our plants relief when they need it most in the peak heat of the day. In June, such soaking rains that can sometimes be an inch or more an hour, are the norm rather than the exception.

For orchids grown outside in South Florida this month, how to dry them out becomes more the question than how or when to water them. For most sympodial genera (cattleyas, dendrobiums, oncidiums, etc.) the natural rainfall of June is sufficient. Only in those rare once or twice times during June when no rain falls for nearly a week is it necessary to think of watering sympodial orchids in June. Even then it usually is a thought that can be dismissed. A thorough, "hard" drying in this first month of the rainy season is usually of much more overall value to sympodial orchids than the slight extra push of additional water. Harder plants that have not been pushed with extra water are much more disease resistant than softer more lushly grown orchids. Vandas and other high water requirement plants may still need periodic watering in June but remember that these types too relish occasional "hard" drying and the heavy often lingering, rains of June are just the nostrum for re-hydrating them even when they have become as dry as the cork in a wine bottle dry. When watering in June, remember at no season is the standard 'water early in the day' rule more relevant; those extra hours of drying are crucial. If your vandas or other orchids really need water, water early in the morning to allow time for them to dry not merely by night but by the time the all too likely afternoon thunderstorms arrive to soak them again. Be sure when you water that the roots of the vandas are saturated until they turn overall dark green. This will still take two applications of water spaced a few minutes apart. June is the archetypical month for careful but totally thorough watering.

News from Dr. Motes

The Updated Edition of
Florida Orchid Growing
Month by Month
is now available!

To purchase, visit
www.RedlandPress.com

Read this month's complete article at:

<http://www.motesorchids.com/fogblog/>

Sign up for Dr. Motes'

Newsletter at:

<http://www.motesorchids.com/fogblog/>

Excerpted: "Florida Orchid Growing, Month by Month"

To purchase, visit www.RedlandPress.com

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ORCHID EVENTS

JUNE

The June 2023 judging at the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center will take place Saturday, June 24, 2023. Judging takes place at Flamingo Gardens, 3750 S Flamingo Road, Davie, FL 33330 at 2 PM on the fourth Saturday of the month (third Saturday November/December). Plant Registration will begin at 1:30. Exhibitors can go to www.wpbjudging.org for more information or email Jackie Wood at bocaorchidlady@aol.com.

OCTOBER

Delray Beach Orchid Society Show and Sale, Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 22, 2023 at The Fieldhouse at Old School Square, Delray Beach, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33444. Hours TBD.

NOVEMBER

Deerfield Beach Orchid Society Orchid Obsession Show and Sale, Saturday, November 11 and Sunday, November 12, 2023, 10 AM—5 PM both days, at Safe Schools Institute, 1790 Spanish River Boulevard, Boca Raton, FL. Admission: \$5 pp; children under 12 free.

*** We will list other events and provide details for the ones listed above as the information is received. If you hear of events of interest to our members, please let Cheryl know and they will be included here. To contact Cheryl, email rcdodes@aol.com

Plant Photos Needed for Our Social Media Pages

If you have some great photos of your orchids, please send them to Steve Miller, lobsterman47@yahoo.com, and he will post them on our Instagram page. Our Instagram page web address is [bocaratonorchidsociety_bros](https://www.instagram.com/bocaratonorchidsociety_bros). Please pick your best photo of each plant, since we will post only one photo of a particular plant.

BROS Exhibition Table

Every month members have the opportunity to show their latest achievements. They can be admired then judged and you may even win an award ribbon! Fill out a exhibition slip and place it with your entry. Please follow the rules below to avoid disqualification.

- 1.
2. It must be featured in the correct category.
3. You must have owned the orchid for at least six months.
4. The plant must not have insects or disease.
5. Display your orchid in an attractive container.
6. Each plant registered earns you a FREE raffle ticket!

REMINDER

Your Dues are Due for 2023

Please make payment at the March meeting or mail it in to :

BOCA RATON ORCHID SOCIETY

P O BOX 276367

BOCA RATON, FL 33427

The winners in May:

MEMBER	CATEGORY	RIBBON	ORCHID NAME
Teresa O'Neil	Epidendrum	Blue	Epc. Lime Sherbet x Brassavola nodosa
Rod Lewis	Encyclia	Blue	Enc. Serena O'Neill
Teresa O'Neil	Vanda	Blue	V. JYB x V. Kullawadee Fragrance
Robert Finocchi	Cattleya Bifoliate Species	Blue, Yellow	C. guttata v. Alba
Robert Finocchi	Other Cattleya Alliance	Blue	MMC. Mem. Louise Fuchs 'Roy Finley' x C. 'Mark Jones'
Robert Finocchi	Cattleya Unifoliate Species	Blue	C. mossiae "Veronica" x C. 'Julieta Bosque'

BEST IN SHOW: Congratulations to Robert Finocchi!



C. mossiae "Veronica" x C. 'Julieta Bosque'
Robert Finocchi

Fun Fact: Orchids grow on every continent except Antarctica

Members' Blue Ribbon Plants for May



Epc Lime Sherbet x *Brassavola nodosa*—Teresa O'Neil



Enc. Serena O'Neil - Rod Lewis



V. JYB x Kullawadee Fragrance -- Teresa O'Neil



C. guttata v. *Alba*— Robert Finocchi



VC. Mossiae "Veronica" x "Julieta Bosque"
Robert Finocchi



MMC. Mem. Louise Fuchs 'Roy Finley' x C. 'Mark Jones'

BROS Bus Trip to the Redlands, May 20, 2023

The morning of May 20 was warm and sunny as we set out on our bus trip to the Redlands Orchid Show and Sale. The bus was clean and comfortable, and our driver, Deborah was friendly and courteous. Th3 35 people aboard were eager to visit the more than 70 orchid vendors and sellers of orchid-related merchandise from around the world, and to sample the food from some of the 18 food trucks that were in Fruit and Spice Park. BROS members were joined on the trip by members of the Boca Raton Garden Club and the Deerfield Orchid Society. Many of us partook of the delicious muffins, chips, bananas, and other snacks and drinks. provided by BROS during the trip.

When we got to the Redlands, we posed for a group picture before dispersing through the park. Many of us brought wheeled carts to hold our purchases. Some of us parked our purchases at the Orchid-Babysitting Tent so we could continue making purchases without schlepping everything around all day.

After the day of shopping and camaraderie, we stowed our purchases under the bus and boarded for the trip back to Safe Schools Institute, where we had been granted permission to park our cars for the day. We came home tired and happy to have gotten the opportunity for such a nice day out.

Big bunches of thanks to Kathy Kersey, Abby Diab, Teresa O'Neil, and whomever else who was involved for arranging such a great trip!



May BROS Meeting Speaker Rich Ackerman's Presentation "Florida Native Orchids"

If you missed our May Member Meeting on May 11, you missed a great talk. Rich Ackerman is a Florida native orchid specialist who participates in Orchid Conservation by growing, then attaching Florida native orchids to trees throughout Broward County. He started out by collecting *Encyclia tampensis* seeds from plants growing in his neighborhood, then having them propagated at Dreyers Conservatory, that will grow native orchid seeds for free and send you about 25 of the resulting plants. Rich explained that growing orchids from seeds yourself is nearly impossible, because of the specific conditions and symbiotic fungi needed for germination. Unlike most plants, orchid seeds lack an endosperm, so the seed is not able to access any stored food. Instead, orchid seeds rely on certain mycorrhizal fungi in the growing medium to make the food the seeds require to grow. The fungi associations continue into adulthood in many terrestrial orchids. One of the challenges of orchid conservation is the necessary survival of the associated fungi, which may be harmed by chemicals and conditions in the environment.

Rich discussed some of the strategies that orchids use to attract pollinators by deception. The Bee Orchid (*Ophrys apifera*) is a Florida orchid characterized by markings that give the illusion of a female bumble bee perched on the flower. Eager male bees swarm to these flowers, and in the act of what they think is procreation (which it isn't,) they spread pollen from flower to flower.



Bumble Bee Orchid

Most orchids produce thousands of seeds in each seed capsule to increase the chances that even a few of the seeds will germinate.

After the seeds germinate in flasks with an agar nutrient solution, they remain in the flasks until they grow large enough to be transferred to community pots (compots) until they are ready to be separated and transferred to individual pots, where they remain until they are large enough to be placed on trees. The process, from germination to large enough to be planted can take up to six years.

Palm Beach County is home to 27 different native orchid species, some of which are becoming quite rare, due to loss of habitat. Native orchid *Encyclia tampensis* is most compatible growing on oak trees and is frequently found with its companion plant, the Resurrection Fern.

The biggest threats to native orchids are currently habitat loss due to development, habitat fragmentation, where habitats are no longer contiguous, poaching and overcollection of orchids, deer grazing, climate change, and air pollution. Rich urges all of us to advocate for habitat preservation, maintenance of biodiversity, and for Orchid Societies and Native Plant Societies to provide leadership and resources. He also reminds us to be aware of and support efforts to place native orchids back into their ancestral habitats.

Florida Native Orchid *Encyclia tampensis*. This specimen, currently blooming on 20+ spikes was saved from Siesta Key after a 2017 hurricane. It was mailed to BROS member Cheryl Dodes in an envelope by a person who collected it from a fallen palm that was slated for disposal. It is now growing happily on a Robellini Palm.



BROS April Ramble a Huge Success *by Abby Diab*

We were prepared to be amazed at the Boca Raton Orchid Society Spring Ramble held on Sunday, April 30th, when we visited the homes of Jackie Wood and Carol Holdren, both accredited American Orchid Society judges. Yet, the orchid and plant displays at each of these homes far exceeded our expectations.

Due to the amazing response we received for this event, as well as parking limitations, we did things a little bit differently than usual. Everybody was assigned to one of twelve carpools in order to limit the number of vehicles in play, and we split into two groups so that one group started at Jackie's home and finished at Carol's and the other did the reverse. This turned out to be a nice chance for members to meet and get to know each other, and I was tremendously impressed with everybody's willingness to cooperate.

The weather was a little less impressive. The rainclouds that rolled in that morning opened up as each group arrived at their second home. While it only resulted in a short delay for Group A at Carol's house, Group B really got poured on at Jackie's house. After bringing them safely into her sunporch for the downpour, Jackie kindly offered Group B a raincheck. This is one raincheck not to pass up because Jackie's backyard orchid labyrinth is a sight to behold, as was Carol's amazing array of tropical plants and orchids. I'll let the pictures speak for themselves, but each home was equally impressive and entirely different from the other.

Special thanks to Tomer Avivi who assisted at Jackie's house and Alan LaDuke who assisted at Carol's, and super-special thanks to surprise guest Judy Bailey, who freely shared her vast growing knowledge with us throughout the visit.





GREEN BARN

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Grow Beautiful Orchids!

Lynn Lappin & Hyla Levine

(561) 499-2810

5185 Conklin Drive
Delray Beach, FL
www.GreenBarnOrchid.com

*Happy
Father's
Day!*
Members Rev. C.

We thank those who participated by providing refreshments at our May member meeting: Janice Larit, Kathy Kersey, Lois Kuhlman, Shirley Schneider, Sheila Bell, and Cheryl Dodes



Please consider bringing something to share at our meetings. We all appreciate the variety!

Board Meetings

**The BROS Board meets the Thursday
before the monthly Member Meeting at 7:00 PM on Zoom**

Next meetings:

July 6

August 1