

The Orchid Scentinel

BOCA RATON ORCHID SOCIETY



MAY 2018

VOLUME 32

ISSUE 5



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
Map: <http://bit.ly/qQhKXu>

Guests are Always Welcome!

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Featuring~

Speaker: Dr. James Andre
Topic: How to Grow Better Orchids
Date: May 10, 2018

James Andre Grew up in Minnesota and went to medical school at Northwestern University in Chicago. With his extensive knowledge of canoeing and living in the woods and knowing the geography of the roadless area of Minnesota and the Quetico Provincial Park of Canada, he and a friend were hired by the exploration division of Kennicott Copper to provide the logistics and supplies for exploring the footwall of the Gabro from Disappointment Lake near Ely to the Canadian border, a distance of over two hundred miles. In the last summer they ended up on the south arm of the Kawishaway River defining the extensive copper-nickel deposit which they had discovered. The deposit has never been mined but is frequently in the news as they continue to seek mining rights over the objections of the environmentalists. He was first exposed to the world of orchids when every May thousands of *Cypripedium Acaule* poked there blossoms up often thru coverings of light snow and lasted only a short time.

In 1986 at a school reunion he talked to a classmate who told him about Hospital Albert Schweitzer in Haiti. The hospital is in the Artibonite valley in central Haiti. He went to Haiti numerous times as a surgical consultant starting in 1986. He hiked extensively in the mountains of Haiti and became interested in *Tolumnia variegatum* which he found had a host specific tree. It would only grow on the native Caribbean Almond tree.

During this period, he started growing orchids in an attached greenhouse and became an Honorary Life member of the Orchid Society of Minnesota.

His wife died in 2003 of complications of extensive vascular disease. In 2007, he married an anesthetist at the Hospital in Haiti. She did not speak English and he did not speak Creole, an ideal marriage. He brought his Haitian wife to Minnesota and after two years decided to move to Florida and ended up in Vero Beach where he raises orchids and plays duplicate bridge.

We are pleased to have Dr. Jim share his vast knowledge of orchids with us.

Jay Collins

Vice President, Programs

Members may bring plants to sell at the May meeting.

Please see the Rules for Selling Plants on page 8 of this issue.

Future Programs

June 14—Norman Fang: Topic TBD

July 12—Francisco Miranda: The Genus *Laelia* in Brazil

August 9—TBD

Contact Us

Web: www.bronline.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BocaOrchid/>

Email: rcdodes@aol.com



2018 Board of Directors

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The BROS is the proud recipient
of the DASSA Award.



From Our Board of Directors

Hello Fellow Orchid Enthusiasts!

We welcome the month of May. We will miss our snowbirds and will welcome them back in the fall. Many of our spring-blooming orchids are putting on a lovely and fragrant show for us. We hope to see you bring your blooming orchid to our May meeting for all to enjoy. You may even win a blue ribbon!

We are happy to report that Jay Collins has stepped up to assume the office of President of the Boca Raton Orchid Society. Jay has been a member of BROS for years, has served as our First Vice President, and is an orchid grower par excellence. Along with his knowledge of orchids, he is very organized and we know our Society will thrive under his guidance.

The Redlands Orchid Festival Bus trip still has a few seats available. This is a great way to visit vendors from the USA and abroad. Many vendors are in our area only for this annual show. Refer to the information in this newsletter and respond before it's too late. We look forward to seeing all the orchid vendors and perhaps stocking up on new orchids and supplies.

Each meeting we need snacks for our fellow members and guests. You don't have to make anything fancy or time consuming but please make an effort to contribute to our evening.

Finally, we occasionally need fellow members to step up and help our Society, either on the Board of Directors or for various other helpful jobs. You don't have to have experience growing orchids to help your Society; just have the desire to be part of a group that enjoys growing orchids. Please share your time and hidden talents when asked.

Happy Mother's Day!

See you at the May Meeting.

ORCHID EVENTS

MAY

May 5(9 am– 5 pm) **and 6**, (9 am—43pm), **2018. Broward County Plant Affair.** At Plantation Heritage Park, 1100 South Figtree Lane, Plantation, FL. More info: 954-797-2722 or visit their web site: <http://www.browardcountyplantaffair.com/about.html>

May 18-20, 2018 (9 am—5pm) **Redland International Orchid Festival.** At Fruit and Spice Park, 24801 SW 187th Avenue, Homestead, FL. Admission: \$10.00. Children under 12—Free. Featuring close to seventy growers and allied vendors offering every type of orchid under the sun. More info at <http://www.redlandorchidfestival.org/>

May 19, 2018: BROS Bus Trip to Redland International Orchid Festival. More information in this issue of the Newsletter. Contact Marion Israel at 561-810-6547 or see her at the May BROS meeting

May 26, 2018: AOS Judging at Flamingo Gardens. Judging takes place at Flamingo Gardens, 3750 S Flamingo Road, Davie, FL 33330 at 2:00 PM on the fourth Saturday of the month. For more information, W: (305) 245-4570, C: (786) 218-9081; Email: bob@rforchids.com

Board Meetings

The BROS board meets the Wednesday following the monthly Members' Meeting at 7:30 PM.

May 16—Office of Carla Lacher's husband

June 20—Home of Cheryl Dodes

July 18—Home of Marion Israel

REMINDER

YOUR DUES ARE DUE FOR 2018

PLEASE MAKE PAYMENT AT THE MAY MEETING OR MAIL IT IN
TO :

BOCA RATON ORCHID SOCIETY

P O BOX 276367

BOCA RATON, FL 33427

Dendrobiums: Tree Life (by Roy Tokunaga)

Here is some of the information about Dendrobiums presented by Roy Tokunaga at our April meeting.

Dendrobiums are composed of more than 1200 species, divided into more than 50 sections. Dendrobiums are found from sea level to 9000 feet, most near the equator, as far north as Japan, and as far south as New Zealand. Species found at less than 2000 feet of altitude are “warm growing”; from 3000 to 5000 feet are “intermediate”; above 6000 feet are “cool growing” and cannot tolerate 80° F for any length of time. Some of the more important sections are:

Section Phalaenanthé: 6 species; flowers resemble the genus Phalaenopsis. Examples: Den. Phalaenopsis, Little Diamond, Crimson glow. Mostly warm growing, so suitable for South Florida.

Section Spatulata: More than 50 species; have narrow, twisted petals and sepals. Most species are very tall. Warm growers that need bright light. Examples: Den. Stratiotes, lasianthera, Norman ‘Pam’ AM/Aos, sutiknoi.

Section Dendrobium: More than 50 species. Cool growing soft cane Dendrobiums, Yamamoto Nobiles require 3 weeks of 59° F nights to initiate buds. Den. Moniliforme, unicum, Golden Aya. Dendrobium anosmum (Honohono orchids), and parishii can be grown in South Florida under warm conditions.

Section Dendrocoryne: Australian species, require 3 weeks of 50° F nights to initiate flowers. Examples: Den. Speciosum, Display by Ted Gregory, Australia, kingianum. Most are cool growers not suited for South Florida.

Section Rhizobium: Warm growing miniatures from Australia. Examples: Den. Wassellii, rigidum, toressae.

Section Oxyglossum: High alpine species, mostly intermediate to cool growing in the mountains of Papua, New Guinea. They have colorful, long-lasting flowers that are pollinated by birds. Examples: Den. Subacaule (cool), De. Violaceum (intermediate), Den. Laevofolium (intermediate), Den. Cutbertsonii (very cool), Den. Tanii (warm-intermediate).

Section Latouria: 50+ species, warm to cool growing. Most found in New Guinea. Have exotic, long-lasting, fleshy flowers. Examples: Den. Atroviolaceum (flowers last up to 5 months), Den. Musciferum, convolutum (green), aberrans (miniature), spectabile (largest, fragrant), johnsoniae (best white), johnsoniae X atroviolaceum = Roy Tokunaga, Den. Andree Millar (convolutum X atroviolaceum) best green hybrid, Den. Micro Chip (best miniature).

Refreshments are needed for our May 2018 Meeting

These refreshments can be: Cookies, cakes, punch, soft drinks, vegetables & dip, cut up fruit, fruit salad, nuts, chips or anything tasty to share with the other members during the break.

Thank you for refreshments at our April meeting:

***Bill Thrall, Kathy Geis, Cathy Hanna, Phyllis Lyons,
Cheryl Dodes, Arlene Presto, Mary Ann Johnson, Veronica Risko***



PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN IN SO WE CAN ACKNOWLEDGE YOU IN THE NEWSLETTER.

Redlands International Orchid Festival



WHEN: Sat. May 19th

\$30 Member - \$35 Non-Member

Mail your Check to "BROS" ASAP to reserve your seat.

(In memo section of check write "Redlands") to

BROS, PO Box 276367, Boca Raton, FL 33427-6367

Don't miss out on a fun day with fellow orchid enthusiasts!

Contact: Marion Israel at 561-810-6547

DEPARTURE

We will meet in the parking lot of the

Boca K-Mart Garden Center,

Located at Palmetto Park Road & I-95.

Look for the bus!

Arrive by 7:30 am; Departing PROMPTLY at 8 am

We will return at approximately 4:30 pm

Bring a box for storage (your name on it), sunscreen, hat, camera and comfortable walking shoes

INCLUDES

- Bus Ride (includes tolls and gas)
 - Snacks & Bottled Water
- Admission to the Redlands Event (\$10 value)
 - Redlands Vendor \$5 off coupon
 - BROS Raffle Ticket

BROS Exhibition Table

Every month BROS paid-up 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 an exhibition slip and place it with your entry. Please follow the rules below to avoid disqualifica-

1. Clearly print the orchid name and your full name.
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!

Get Well Soon

Shirley Wilde

Stephen Lyons

Warm Thoughts

for a

Quick Recovery!

The winners in April were...

MEMBER	CATEGORY	RIBBON	ORCHID NAME
Shirley Schneider	Cattleya Bifoliata	Blue	Ctna. Why Not
Maritza Graff	Dendrobium	Blue	Den. Black Mountain X Den. Paskal Kuning
Karen Meiselman	Dendrobium	Blue	Den. chrysotoxum
Carla Lacher	Other Vandaceous	Blue	Renanthera Robsan Volcano Red Marc Killian X Monachica Red
Carla Lacher	Phalaenopsis	Blue	Phal. Ox 'Yellow Lip' AM/AOS
Anwar Thompson	Species	Blue	Bulb. A-doribil Upwind
Roderick Lewis	Epidendrum/Encyclia	Blue	Encyclia cordigera
Karen Meiselman	Misc. Genera	Blue	Maxillaria tenuifolia
Sally Glick	Vanda	Blue	Vanda Pat Delight 'Pink Tango' AM/AOS
Maritza Graff	Vanda	Blue	Ascda Sweet Pea "Ruby" HCC/AOS
Maritza Graff	Other Cattleya Alliance	Blue	Iwanagaara Apple Blossom "Kapoko"

BEST IN SHOW: Congratulations to Maritza Graff

APRIL MEMBERS' PLANTS



Maillaria tenuifolia



Bulb. A-doribil Upwind



Den. Black Mountain X Den. Paskal Kuning



Ctna. Why Not



Encyclia Cordigera



Phal. Ox 'Yellow Lip'



Vanda Pat Delight 'Pink Tango' AM/AOS



Renanthera Robsan Volcano Red Marc
Killian X Monachina Red



Iwanagara Apple Blossom "Kapoko"

BROS Membership

FIRST YEAR

SINGLE \$25.00
COUPLE \$35.00
BUSINESS: \$40.00
Newsletter emailed.

RENEWAL (Before March 1)

SINGLE \$18.00
COUPLE \$25.00
BUSINESS: \$40.00
Newsletter emailed.

RENEWAL (After March 1)

SINGLE \$25.00
COUPLE \$35.00
BUSINESS: \$40.00
Newsletter emailed.

MAIL CHECKS TO

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

CONTACT

Phyllis Lyons
(561) 994-3386

BROS MEMBER PLANT SALES

Paid-up BROS members are welcome to sell their plants at designated monthly meetings.

Five Simple Rules:

1. Maximum of 5 plants.
2. No insects or diseases
3. Must have a name tag
4. No commercial sales.
5. 10% of your total sales must go to the BROS treasurer that night.

Tasks for May

by Dr. Martin Motes

1. Space plants properly for good air circulation.
2. Trim excessive foliage on trees and shrubs.
3. Repot *Phalaenopsis* out of sphagnum.
4. Finish repotting of various genera.
5. Reset vandaceous plants, remove keikies.
6. Water heavily early in month, more guardedly later.
7. Initiate preventive spray maintenance program.

Read this month's complete article at:

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

Sign up for Dr. Motes'

Monthly newsletter at:

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

Excerpted: "Florida Orchid Growing, Month by Month"

To purchase, visit www.RedlandPress.com

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**Going to the Redlands
Orchid Festival?
Redlands would be a great
place to wear our BROS
T-Shirts!
Pick yours up at the May
Meeting right
before the trip!**

The Myth of the Ice Cube

You go to a big box store and buy a beautiful Phalaenopsis orchid. You ask the person in the plant department how to care for it. They tell you “Oh, just give it three ice cubes per week, all at once and the plant will be fine”. Is this good advice? Probably not.

I have observed that phals are frequently sold potted in sphagnum moss in a pot that does not have a drainage hole. With no drainage hole, excess water has no place to go, so it stays in the pot and rots the roots. The idea of “three ice cubes” might work, temporarily, in this situation, because it provides just a little water, slowly, as the ice cubes melt. Phalaenopsis are tropical plants. The idea that they want cold water to touch their roots is a bit strange. Please use your ice cubes for your own refreshing drink on a hot day.

Some people like to grow their phals in sphagnum, but most do not. Sphagnum either remains too wet, rotting the plant’s roots, or it dries out totally, becoming very difficult to wet it again. Sphagnum moss also breaks down quickly,

So, what to do with your phals? Phalaenopsis roots are photosynthetic. This means that they use sunlight and water to create nutrients for the plant, as do the leaves. Therefore, phals like transparent or translucent pots that allow their roots to see some sunlight. Phal roots, like all orchid roots, need air space in the medium to be able to breathe. Many people use a medium consisting of bark and charcoal for their phals. Others add expanded clay pellets, coconut husk chunks, sponge rock, and some other amenities to the medium. All the media are designed to drain quickly so that water does not drown the roots.

Of course, if you can attach a phal to a tree, your plant would probably be happiest. Phals are epiphytes, meaning that they like to grow attached to another plant or tree, but they do no harm to their host. If you choose to attach your phal to a tree, make sure that the phal is in the shade for most or all day. Phals are shade-loving plants that will die if exposed to too much sunlight.

Treat your phals properly and they will reward you with long-lasting floral displays regularly, perhaps even more than once per year.



Bill Thrall's Phal. Amboinensis
Tejas Giant



Carla Lacher's Phal. Ox 'Yellow Lip' AM/AOS



Bill Thrall's Phal. Tetrapsis Classic
Moonbeam

Welcome New Members!

David Berkowitz
Lucy Walker
Fran and Joe Wydra
Eli and Relly Kabrun
Madeleine Frankel
Teresa O'Neil



GREEN BARN

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Everything You Need to
Grow Beautiful Orchids!

Lynn Lappin & Hyla Levine

(561) 499-2810

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Jane Heim Maechtle
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