



**MEETINGS**

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

**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~

**Program: AOS Judges: Criteria for Plant Judging**

**Date: Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 7:30PM**

Join us for an instructive meeting as AOS judges demonstrate what they look for when judging an orchid plant

Judging is not a "one size fits all" endeavor, as the American Orchid Society criteria is different for different types of orchids.

They will also show us factors that do not depend upon an orchid's type.

Please plan on bringing in one of your beautiful blooming orchids. Make sure your plant is prepared like you would bring them in for judging during our Show. Remember to stake your spikes if needed, pretty pots and Spanish moss. This is definitely a meeting you won't want to miss. We would like to have at least 20 plants for the judges to talk about. We look forward to seeing your plants.

Members may bring orchids for sale at this meeting. Please see page— for the rules.



### Future Programs

**February 9:** Judy Bailey- "Questions to Ask When Purchasing an Orchid"

**February 12 & 13:** BROS Valentines Show

**March 9:** Swap and Shop or a speaker

Contact US



**PRESIDENT**

**Kathy Kersey**  
954-802-3575

**VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS**

**Janice Larit**  
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**VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP**

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The BROS is the proud recipient  
of the DASSA Award.



## From President Kathy Kersey

Happy New Year....Welcome to 2023. I hope the upcoming year is filled with Good Health, Good Friends and Family and all that you hope and wish for. For those of you that haven't made it to our monthly meetings this past year, I hope you will join us starting in January. We look forward to seeing all of our seasonal members as well.

I hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday season, however you chose to celebrate. We had an extremely cold December, especially over Christmas. I'm sure a lot of you moved your orchids to a warmer location, which is always advised. I honestly cannot remember it being that cold for the length of time we had in December. The colder weather was a nice change, but mid to high 50's would be preferred, especially for our orchids. Remember to water early in the morning to give them time to dry out before the sun sets.

For those of you who were able to join us for our December meeting and year end wrap up, I hope you had a great time. We did our usual BINGO game (congratulations to the winners). I hope you are enjoying the plants that you received as our gift to you for being a part of Boca Raton Orchid Society.

Thanks to those who made our meeting such a success: Teresa O'Neil ordered all of the wonderful food for our meeting; Barbara Barrie ordered the beautiful plants that you received; Cheryl Dodes and Janice Larit setup the room with decorations; Veronica Risko and Abby Diab manned the tables in the front for multiple tasks; Bob Dodes, Steve Miller, Mark Barrie and Denise Guzman assisted with set up. A special thank you to Mark Barrie for hosting our BINGO game; he did a great job.

Please join us on January 12, when we will be joined by AOS judges. As part of the AOS Outreach program they will give us a presentation on how plants are judged, at orchid shows and at the West Palm Beach Judging Center at Flamingo Gardens. They will provide us with feedback on how we can improve plant presentation. This is a MUST SEE meeting you don't want to miss. Everyone can benefit from the knowledge they will share, whether you ever bring your plants in for judging or not.

We would like to have 20 plants for the judges to speak about. It is the same format as our monthly meeting when our members bring in their plants for judging. Please have them staked if needed, in a decorative container and tagged with the official name of the plant. On a personal note: I had 3 plants that I was planning on bringing, but unfortunately two of them are blooming already. I guess I haven't figured out how to slow them down. Please take a look at your collection and start thinking about what you can bring in for our meeting.

We are 1 month away from our annual Valentines Show, February 11-12. Set up starts Thursday the 9th. If you haven't signed up to volunteer, please sign up at the January meeting. All positions need to be filled. We are also looking for food donations for our vendors and volunteers. Please sign up. Both sign up boards are available at the January meeting. Last chance to purchase pre-sale tickets as well.

Thank you so much and looking forward to a wonderful 2023,

**Kathy**

# Tasks for January

by Dr. Martin Motes

## 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

January, like December, is cold and dry, in fact even colder and drier. Dry is good, cold can be very bad. We need to accentuate the positive by especially careful watering in January. By keeping our plants as dry as possible and spacing our waterings as far apart as possible, we conserve our potential to use water to protect our plants from the cold, keeping our powder dry, as it were. In January water early, water thoroughly when you do and do so sparingly. The cooler overall temperatures of January are much less dehydrating even to plants which have received less water. Remember, many of our orchids come from seasonally dry and cool climates not so different from South Florida. Many orchids are equipped to handle the drier cooler conditions of our January. A good strategy is to "top-up" the light watering that our plants receive with the passing showers that each successive cold front brings. Such parsimony, preserves the possibility of using water on truly cold nights to warm our plants.

Water is the only feasible source of heat available to plants grown in the open, under trees, in shade houses or on patios in South Florida. Ground water here (and in most of the rest of the world is about 63 F. (16C). Water out of municipal systems is not far different. On truly cold nights turning on the water can be of great benefit to our plants, provided that they have not been over-watered in the days and weeks preceding, thus inviting the ever present fungi to do more damage than the cold. For this reason as well, in general, orchids are better off dry until temperatures approach frost or freezing. The logic for maintaining plants dry is not only to minimize fungal problems but also because cold air is typically very dry air. If plants are wet in very dry and rapidly moving air say 10 or more MPH, evaporative cooling can take place, chilling our orchids further and faster than they would if dry. When the water goes on it needs to be in heavy volume and it needs to stay on to keep the plants thoroughly bathed in its warmth. Very still air on the other hand, presents a different danger as frost is possible at temperatures higher than is commonly realized. In calm air frost can form at higher elevations and settle in on plants while the surface temperature is only in the upper 30's. The best forecast for nights when the temperature will hover near 40 is a light wind of 2-5 miles per hour. Forecasts of temperatures below 40 F should stimulate us to action.

## News from Dr. Motes

The Updated Edition of  
*Florida Orchid Growing*

*Month by Month*

is now available!

To purchase, visit [www.RedlandPress.com](http://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"

# Fun at Our December Annual Meeting

Our newly elected 2023 Board of Directors was installed at our December 8, 2022 Annual Meeting



The food was plentiful and delicious!



Teresa O'Neil was honored for having the most Best Blue Ribbon orchids in 2022. The picture of one of her winning orchids will appear on the 2023 BROS Show rack card.



BROS President Kathy Kersey and Scott Joffe, our BROS Photographer

# ORCHID EVENTS

The January 2023 judging at the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center will take place Saturday, January 28, 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.

Masks and social distancing required. Exhibitors can go to <https://www.wpbjc.org/> for more information or email Jackie Wood at [bocaorchidlady@aol.com](mailto:bocaorchidlady@aol.com).

## JANUARY

Boca Raton Orchid Society Outreach Judging. Thursday, January 12, at Safe Schools Institute, 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd., Boca Raton, FL. Contact Kathy Kersey, 954-802-3575. This will be at our regular January meeting.

Tamiami International Orchid Festival. Friday-Sunday January 13-15, 2023 from 11 AM to 6 PM daily. Miami Dade County Fair Expo Center - 10901 SW 24th St, Miami, FL 33165. The Tamiami International Orchid Festival is Miami's largest, most diverse orchid show. Over the past twenty years, the Tamiami International Orchid Festival has not only become a great Miami orchid show, but a nationally and internationally recognized orchid event. The January 13-15, 2023 Tamiami International Orchid Festival will be the largest orchid show in the United States.

## FEBRUARY

Boca Raton Orchid Society Valentines Show. Saturday February 11 and Sunday, February 12, 10 AM—5 PM. At Safe Schools Institute, 1790 NW Spanish River Blvd. Boca Raton, FL. 33433. AOS orchid judging, vendors, lectures. Admission: \$5 pp at the door CASH ONLY. Presale tickets \$3 pp available at BROS meetings or Green Barn Orchid Supply. \*\*\* Volunteering at the Show gets you free admission on the day you volunteer.

## MARCH

Martin County Orchid Society's Orchid Express. March 3-5, Martin County Fair Grounds, Bldg G, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy, Stuart, FL; Contact Nancy Speedy, 772-485-5310; [aspeedy@bellsouth.net](mailto:aspeedy@bellsouth.net)

Jacksonville Orchid Society Show, March 18-19, Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road, Jacksonville, FL. Contact Lorraine Conover , 561-302-6010; [lorrainesorchids@gmail.com](mailto:lorrainesorchids@gmail.com)

## APRIL

Port St. Lucie Orchid Society's "Hoot Loves Orchids". April 1-2, Port St. Lucie Polich American Club, 343 NW Prima Vista Blvd., Port ST. Lucie, FL. Contact Andrea Heitfeld, [tazzette55@gmail.com](mailto:tazzette55@gmail.com)

# ORCHID AUCTION



WEST PALM BEACH JUDGING CENTER

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY  
FEBRUARY 26, 2023  
1:00 PM

FLAMINGO GARDENS LEARNING  
CENTER  
DAVIE, FLORIDA

IN CELEBRATION OF ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY  
THE JACKSONVILLE ORCHID SOCIETY PRESENTS

## A LEGACY OF BEAUTY 1943-2023

SHOW & SALE, MARCH 18-19, 2023  
FREE ADMISSION



10:00-5:00 SATURDAY  
10:00-4:00 SUNDAY  
MANDARIN GARDEN CLUB  
2892 LORETTO ROAD  
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32223  
WWW.JAXORCHIDSOCIETY.ORG

### The Famed Ghost Orchid: This Rare Flower May Be Added to the Endangered Species List

By [Bill Kearney](#)

*South Florida Sun Sentinel Oct 28, 2022*

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will consider putting South Florida's rare ghost orchid on the Endangered Species list. The decision comes after the federal agency reviewed a petition submitted by the Institute for Regional Conservation, Center for Biological Diversity and National Parks Conservation Association.

"Based on our review," an FWS release said, "we find that the petition presents substantial scientific or commercial information that listing the rare, swamp-dwelling ghost orchid as threatened or endangered ... may be warranted."

The next step includes a 12-month status review to evaluate potential threats to the plant.

The beguiling orchids, which live only in southwestern Florida's Collier and Hendry counties and in Cuba, require wet, often otherworldly wilderness to survive, putting them at odds with Florida's growing human population. Once a year the plants bloom, extending a white, tendrilled flower that can seem to hover above swamp. Large moths pollinate the flowers at night.

The petition stated that only 1,500 or so of the plants remain in South Florida, a decrease of up to 50%. Officials tracking 125 of the plants at the Fakahatchee Strand in southwest Florida since 2005 found that 10 of those plants have been illegally poached and 35 have died.

Melissa Abdo, of the National Parks Conservation Association, said she spent six months researching plant life in South Florida's swamps before spotting one. "The Endangered Species Act protection [would] provide formal protections for ghost orchids," said Abdo.

*(condensed by Veronica Risko from an article printed in the Sun-Sentinel and reprinted with permission)*

## Treating Cold Damaged Orchids (from Motes)

The extreme cold of the last few days may have caused damage to our orchids. The good news is that this damage can sometimes be mitigated and plants can often be saved.

Cold damage appears on orchids as whitening of the foliage and stems. The white gradually turns to brown as the affected tissue dies. Often this dead tissue simply dries and the damage is limited to the unsightly patches that are left. Frequently, however, the damaged tissue is infected with bacterial rot which can spread in the plant and cause further damage.

Softening of the edges of the cold damaged areas or oozing of brown fluid indicates bacterial infection. Removal of the leaf or stem is a simple but somewhat drastic solution. If one is loath to lose so much of the plant, the most effective treatment for bacterial infection is treatment with cupric hydroxide (Kocide or Champion) which should if possible be combined in equal parts with mancozeb (Manzate or Dithane M45).

This combination is packaged, pre-mixed as Junction. By adding a small amount of water to the chemicals in a jar, one can make a slurry that can be brushed on the lesions. An old toothbrush is efficient in applying this and your dentist will be happy to have it out of your mouth. Any left over slurry can be placed on a high shelf (brush and all) and re-hydrated later. This stuff is also the cure for those soft spots that appear on Phal. leaves in summer.

Be cautious when making the slurry not to inhale any of the dust and never, never, dust these chemicals without wearing a mask.

For large collections, with extensive damage, one tablespoon per gallon of cupric hydroxide and mancozeb can be sprayed. Mix the two and wait an hour or more before spraying. Do not apply this mixture to dendrobiums which are hyper-sensitive to copper or to bromeliads (ditto).

Both O.F.E. International and Green Barn Orchid Supplies have the chemicals you need.

For more advice like this, consider getting a copy of *Florida Orchid Growing Month by Month* to guide you yearlong in your orchid growing journey.



Cold-damaged Phalaenopsis Leaf

## Board Meetings

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

Next meetings:

January 5

February 2



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### GREEN BARN

### ORCHID SUPPLIES

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Everything You Need to  
Grow Beautiful Orchids!

Lynn Lappin & Hyla Levine

**(561) 499-2810**

5185 Conklin Drive  
Delray Beach, FL  
[www.GreenBarnOrchid.com](http://www.GreenBarnOrchid.com)