### Boca Raton Orchid Society







FEBRUARY 2023

VOLUME 37

ISSUE 2



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:Judy BaileyTopic:Orchid Questions You Need to Ask

Date: February 9, 2023 at 7:30 PM IN PERSON at Safe Schools Institute

As a long time Master Gardener as well as an American Orchid Society Judge, Judy embraces opportunities to learn, share and teach plant knowledge.

In 2006, she was thrilled to retire to south Florida to enjoy year-round outdoor gardening after many years of growing orchids under lights in her unfinished Ohio basement.

She is always experimenting with plants and enthusiastically continues to learn how to grow the healthiest plants in the simplest ways possible.

Join us February 9th when Judy will encourage us with her presentation "Orchid Questions You Need to Ask!"

Please note: Members may bring plants for judging to this meeting. Please see the rules on page 10.

Members may bring plants to sell at this meeting. See rules on page 6.



Judy Bailey

### **Coming Attractions**

March 9 - Lady Vanda (Swap n' Shop will occur at a later date) April 13— Judy Bailey *Organic Orchid Growing Tips & Tricks* 

### Contact US

Web: www.brosonline.org, Facebook: http://on.fb.me/bocaorchid Email: BocaRatonOrchidSociety@gmail.com



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The BROS is the proud recipient of the DASSA Award.

American Orchid Society DASSA Iguished Affiliated Societies Service Award



## President's Message

### -Kathy Kersey



I hope this letter finds you and your family well.

Our show is in a couple of weeks, and we are coming down to the wire with preparations. Without each and every one of you our show would not be possible. Volunteers are what makes our show come together. Thanks to all of you in advance for signing up to volunteer. Set up starts Thursday February 9th at 10 AM, then we have our member meeting that evening at 7:30 PM. Friday set up is at 10 AM until 6 PM. That is the day the vendors arrive and we assist the vendors in whatever they need. If you are bringing in a plant for judging, plant registration is 3-6 PM.

If you are bringing in a breakfast dish on Saturday, it needs to be there by 7:30 AM. The judges start arriving at 7:45. If you are bringing in lunch food, that should arrive by 11 AM. We appreciate everyone that has signed up to bring in food donations. Sometimes I think the only reason our vendors come to our show is because we always serve them delicious food...lol

Please wear your BROS tee shirt when you are volunteering. This way our guests will easily be able to spot you if they have any questions. If you ordered a shirt and did not pick it up at our January meeting, you can pick it up on Thursday February 9th at the member meeting.

The last day to purchase pre-sale tickets is Thursday at our member meeting.

If any of you get the Sun Sentinel or Palm Beach Post we have placed ads in the paper starting on Sunday, February 5th. If you see it, can you please save me the page from your newspaper. I would really appreciate it.

Ok, enough of the Show for the moment... For those of you who joined us for our January meeting with the AOS judges, I hope you learned what goes in to judging plants. It is a lot more involved than I thought.

Please join us on February 9th at 7:30 PM for a great presentation by Judy Bailey, one of our AOS judges, on *Orchid Questions You Need to Ask*. This is a don't miss meeting!

We have a change in our schedule for March 9th. We are having a presentation by "Lady Vanda". We have been trying for some time to have someone speak specifically on Vandas and we wanted to make sure all of our seasonal members would be here for the presentation.

That's all for now. We are looking forward to another amazing show and we hope to exceed last year's numbers.

I hope to see all of you on February 9. Stay safe.

\*\*\*If you haven't paid your membership for 2023, it is due ASAP. Please see Abby or Veronica at a meeting and pay by check, or mail to the BROS mailbox.

### 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

<u>CONTACT:</u> Abby Diab 561-843-0999

MAIL CHECKS TO: Boca Raton Orchid Society PO Box 276367 Boca Raton, FL 33427

# **Tasks for February**

### by Dr. Martin Motes

Despite the bloom on the avocados and the burgeoning new leaves on the live oaks, February is not spring in South Florida. Danger of freeze continues past mid month and frost can occur still into March. Even if the weather is balmy it's too early to let down our guard or take down any protection we have mounted against the cold. The trend however is toward the positive as each lengthening day brings extra hours of warming sunshine to begin waking our plants from their long winter's rest. February characteristically brings a wide swing of day to night temperatures, ideal for spiking Ascocendas and Vandas but also wringing from the air heavy dews and dense fog. Whilst these add a romantic atmosphere to the South Florida landscape, Wuthering Heights is singularly devoid of snails and slugs (much less Botrytis). The silvery carpet of dew provides a silky path to our orchids for snails and slugs which can range far, under these favorable conditions. They are eager to make a nice meal of your Phalaenopsis leaves or the soft crowns of your vandas before they retire during the dry months of March and April only to dream of the fresh shoots of the sympodial orchids brought forth by the first rains of May. Now is the time to give them a rude awakening. Remember that snail bait is most effectively applied lightly (scatter the pellets every few feet) and frequently (every 7 to 10 days). Two or three applications should do the job.

The heavy fog which can cause condensation on leaves even under cover can also bring trouble. Botrytis is a fungus disease that can disfigure flowers with small black spots. Particularly apparent and annoying on white Phalaenopsis, Botrytis can ruin other flowers as well. Control is typically achieved in commercial greenhouses with fungicide in aerosol forms and by running fans to prevent condensation on the flowers. The latter option is also available to collectors. A small fan turned on the spiking and opened flowers at night will greatly alleviate the pressure of Botrytis. So will, to a degree, the application of soap which we suggested in January to control mites. Bicarbonate of soda, ordinary baking soda, at 1 Tbs. per gal will help as well. Quaternary ammonium compounds (Physan, RD40, Consan, pool algicide) also give some control. Maintaining long lasting flowers like Phalaenopsis, dendrobiums and bifoliate cattleyas in more perfect condition is well worth the effort. Having waited so long for the flowers we want to enjoy them as long as possible and they do all last longer in cool weather.

### 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

# **Upcoming Orchid Events**

The February 2023 judging at the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center will take place Saturday, February 25, 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.



**Boca Raton Orchid Society** *Valentine's Orchid Show.* **Saturday and Sunday, February 11-12, 10 AM - 5** PM both days. Admission \$5 pp CASH ONLY. Free parking. Children 12 and under free. At Safe Schools Institute, 1790 Spanish River Blvd., Boca Raton, FL 33433. 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.

West Palm Beach Judging Center Orchid Auction. Sunday, February 26 at 1 PM. At Flamingo Gardens, 3750 S Flamingo Road, Davie, FL 33330 in the Mary N. Porter Learning Center. Support your orchid judging center while having fun and growing your collection! Cash, credit cards, and checks accepted. The selection of orchids available has been curated by Accredited Orchid Judges, and donated from the collections of Judges, awarded orchid exhibitors, orchid influencers, and some of your favorite commercial growers. For more information or to support with a donation, please email Judge Lou at llodyga@comcast.net

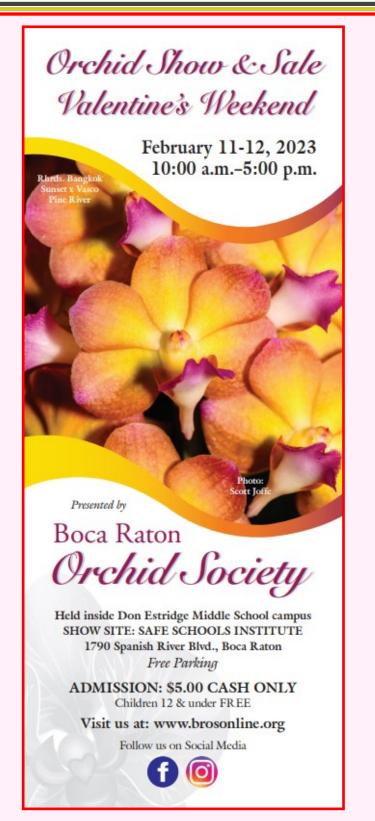
# MARCH

Tampa Bay Orchid Society Orchids By the Bay Show and Sale. Saturday and Sunday, March 5-6, 2022. At Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 5500 Memorial Hwy., Tampa, FL 33634. 561-404-2000 for more info.

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

APRIL

Port St. Lucie Orchid Society's *Hoot Loves Orchids Show*. April 1-2, Port St. Lucie Polish American Club, 343 NW Prima Vista Blvd., Port ST. Lucie, FL. Contact Andrea Heitfeld, tazzette55@gmail.com



Please remember to sign up to set up Thursday or Friday preceding the Show, work at, and/or help after the Orchid Show and Sale, February 11 and 12. Food donations welcome both days. Please let Teresa O'Neil know what you will bring.

This Show is our only fundraiser. Please tell your friends to come and see the beautiful orchid displays.

### WEST PALM BEACH JUDGING CENTER ORCHID AUCTION

#### Sunday, February 26th @ 1 PM

Flamingo Gardens 3750 S Flamingo Rd, Davie, FL 33330 In the Mary N. Porter Learning Center

Support your orchid judging center while having fun and growing your collection!

cash, credit cards and checks accepted

The selection of orchids available has been curated by Accredited Orchid Judges and donated from the collections of Judges, awarded orchid exhibitors, orchid influencers as well as some of your favorite commercial growers.

For more information or to support with a donation, please email Judge Lou at llodyga@comcast.net

### **BROS Member Plant Sales**

BROS paid-up members are welcome to sell their plants <u>at designated monthly meetings</u>.

Four simple rules:

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

# **Follow BROS**

## **On Instagram:**

### Bocaratonorchidsociety\_bros

https://www.instagram.com/ bocaratonorchidsociety\_bros/

Copy and paste to your browser

# Judy Bailey Wins AOS Award at the January BROS Meeting

Our own Judy Bailey, AOS Judge and friend of the Boca Raton Orchid Society received an AOS Award of Merit (AM) with a score of 81 points for her *Paphiopedilum tranlienianum 'Fig's Folly'* orchid at the January, 2023 BROS meeting. The inflorescence (flower) was large, measuring 19.5 cm. The judges went on to describe the flower's attributes, such as its shape and colors. The winning flower will be featured in a future issue of the American Orchid Society (AOS) magazine. Congratulations to Judy!



### AOS Judges Came to BROS, January 12, 2023

A team of AOS Orchid Judges, led by Jackie Wood joined us at our January member meeting to acquaint us with the process of AOS orchid judging. After a presentation by Judge Joan Connors, the team went about judging orchids that had been brought in by members. Although several of the orchids were spectacular, they were examples of plants that had been awarded many times in the past. In order to win an AOS award, the plants had to be "better" than the ones that had gone before. Only one of the plants met that criteria: Judy Bailey's *Paphiopedilum tranlienianum 'Fig's Folly*' pictured on page 7. Below are pictures taken at the meeting. Thanks so much to all our AOS judges for

Judges examined a plant and compared it to the AOS standards



Judges Judy Bailey and Tony Blanc worked together



Carol Holdren with plants brought for judging



Judges Carol Holdren and Joan Connors addressed The audience at the BROS meeting



Beautiful plants brought for judging

# **Boca Raton Orchid Society After School Orchid Program**

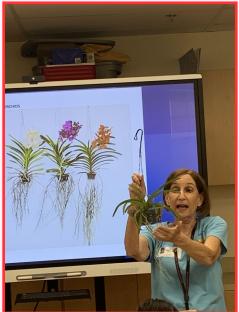
#### Submitted by BJ Saul

In December, students in the After School Orchid Club program learned how to identify different orchids that included phalaenopsis, dendrobium, cattleya, oncidium, and vanda. Members then began coloring an orchid sheet that will be on display at the February Orchid Show.

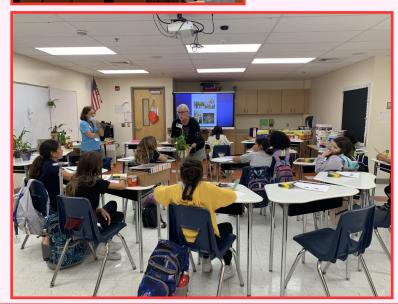
In January, students in the After School Orchid Club program learned how to cut a spike after the flower has died, how to repot and finally identify diseases that might afflict orchids. Members then finished coloring their orchid handout.

Special thanks to Sheila Bell, Rita Welch, and Andrea Willens bring in their orchids to show the students and for sharing their wisdom and knowledge.

If you would like to volunteer, your help would be greatly appreciated. Contact BJ Saul, bjfsaul@comcast.net, or phone 561-347-0618.









# **ORCHID TIPS I** (Found on-line by Janice Larit)

#### Is garlic a natural fungicide?

**Garlic has dual uses as a fungicide and non-selective insecticide**. If fungal disease is still a problem in your garden, consider applying a fungicide. For a highly concentrated spray, you can use up to two full bulbs of garlic pureed into just ½ cup of water. Crush your garlic and put it into a bowl. Pour boiling water over it, cover it and let it steep overnight. Strain it before you put it into a spray bottle so that garlic pieces won't clog the nozzle.

If you spot gray or white powdery spots on your plants, odds are you're dealing with some sort of mildew or fungus. To make a simple garlic fungicide, **puree 5-10 garlic cloves with a pint of water in a blender, let steep for an hour, strain, and spray on plants**.

#### How do you use garlic as a natural pesticide?

Store the concentrated garlic in a glass jar with a tight fitting lid. To make the garlic spray, just **dilute your concentrate with 2** ½ cups of water, pour into a spray bottle or pressure sprayer and you are ready to do some damage. Keep in mind that this natural pesticide won't last forever.

#### Is Egg water good for orchids?

You can also use water from boiling eggs, which is full of calcium your plant needs to grow. This method of watering your plants works because it acts like a fertilizer to give your plants the nutrition they need to survive. This is a great alternative if you do not have the space or time to develop a compost pile.

#### What part of an orchid do you mist?

In the wild you might find an orchid growing off a tree in a steamy rainforest with lots of roots exposed, so seeing the roots is a good thing. Just be sure to mist **the roots** regularly to keep them green and healthy and not grey and dry.

#### How many times a week should orchids be watered?

While each growing environment is unique, and watering habits vary from person to person, it is generally a good idea to water about **once per 7-10 days**, when the mix gets dry. Too much watering leads to root rot, crown rot and other over watering problems like fungus gnat infestations.

\*\*\* If you try any of these tips and do not see the results you want, be aware that there are very few "one size fits all" advice in the orchid world.

### **Rules for Orchid Judging at Monthly BROS Meetings**

Members have the opportunity at our meetings to show their latest orchid growing achievements. They can be admired, then judged, and perhaps win a ribbon! Fill out an Exhibition Slip and place it with your entry. Please follow these rules to avoid disqualification:

- 1. Clearly print the orchid name and your full name.
- 2. Check off the correct category for your orchid (see entry slip for choices)
- 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!



# **BROS Board Meetings**

\*\*\* Are held on the Thursday prior to the Member Meeting each month at 7 PM via Zoom Next Board Meetings:

> February 2 March 2