



All in-person meetings and BROS activities are currently suspended due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

We hope everyone stays healthy and safe.

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Featuring~

Speaker: Fred Clarke

Topic: Be An 80% Grower

Date: April 8, 2021 at 7:30 PM **via Zoom**

Ever wonder what the most important requirements are for growing the best orchids?

Learn about the underlying reasons of how and why orchids grow as they do. Then explore the fundamentals and advanced growing techniques to best grow them. Orchid plant culture is explained as you have never heard it before. Learn how to become an 80 percentile grower, expect to be wowed by this talk!

The presenter will be Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista. Fred has been growing orchids for 42 years and has been hybridizing for 38 of those years. With over 34 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery; Sunset Valley Orchids, located in San Diego, California.

He is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new Paphiopedilum and Aussie Dendrobium hybrids plus some others to be named if they work out!

His pioneering work in Catasetum intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, Fredclarkeara After Dark, which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed". This grex has received over 100 awards worldwide with nine FCC's and thirty AM's from the AOS judges! Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society.

—*Marion Israel*, Vice President, Programs

COMING ATTRACTIONS
May: Kristen Uthus - Miniature Cattleyas



Fred Clarke



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The BROS is the proud recipient
of the DASSA Award.



A Message from Our President

Happy Spring to everyone...

I hope this letter finds you well and staying safe. It's hard to believe it's been a year since the COVID-19 pandemic hit south Florida. I know life as we knew it has changed immensely for all of us. It's hard to believe we haven't been together as a Society and I can't wait to see each and every one of you soon. With that being said... I contacted Safe Schools and we have booked our 2022 show for February 12 and 13, 2022. I heard back from the AOS, and we are all set and the Judging center has been notified. So, mark your calendars because we will need your smiling faces to put our show on, and make it successful.

As I stated previously on many occasions, please continue to send in your photos to Cheryl Dodes so she can post them in our newsletter. We can't wait to see your beautiful blooming orchids in person, but for now you can share them in our newsletter. Also, we have a new section of our newsletter called "Show 'Em Where You Grow 'Em". Please submit your photos of your growing areas. Please include the specifics that Cheryl has placed in the newsletter.

For those of you that joined us for our March ZOOM meeting, I hope you enjoyed Jim Davison's presentation on Cattleya species. I know I enjoyed learning about the "Four Horsemen". I want to especially thank Marion Israel our VP of programs, for continuing to provide us with great speakers that have taught us so much about orchids. Whether you have a small or large collection, I hope you have gained some knowledge over the past few months that has helped you in your own collections.

NOW FOR THE EXCITING PART!!!!

Please join us on April 8th at 7:30 pm for an exciting presentation given by Fred Clarke: How to Be an 80% or Better Grower. I don't know about you, but I have had my share of what I call, my plant cemetery. I am so looking forward to what I can do to increase my survival rate, I hope you are too, and can join us for his highly anticipated presentation.

Have a wonderful Easter and Passover, whatever holiday that you celebrate. Please continue to stay safe. If you chose to get the vaccine, I hope you are doing well.

I miss you all, Happy Spring and happy growing.

Kathy Kersey

NOTICE: All BROS members who paid for their membership for 2020 will get membership for 2021 FREE! Please pay your 2020 dues if you have not already done so.

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:

Phyllis Lyons

561-994-3386

MAIL CHECKS TO:

Boca Raton Orchid Society

PO Box 276367

Boca Raton, FL 33427

Tasks for April

by Dr. Martin Motes

Far from the cruelest, April is the kindest month to South Florida orchid growers. The weather in April is definitely settled into warm, even deliciously hot, with passing cold fronts only adding the delight of a pleasant change in temperature. The clean, bright days brimming with abundant sunlight and the low relative humidity create the high drying potential that orchids love. Now we can get our orchids off to a great start on the growing season by practicing our very best watering skills under ideal conditions. Water heavily when you water and allow the plants to dry thoroughly before watering heavily again. Drying 'hard' in the Spring will produce benefits all season. We want to get our plants well launched while leaving all the fungi high and dry.

With increased heat and light and the onset of growth, fertilizer becomes more crucially important to the plants. Balanced time release pellets (13-13-13) can still be applied to potted plants provided the duration is 180 days or less. Most time release fertilizer breaks down faster under South Florida conditions and should be exhausted by October when we will want our plants to slow down. The brand marketed at retail as "Dynamite" is generally considered by professionals as superior in reliability to other types.

The warmth of April, alas, stimulates the growth of bugs as well as plants. Both thrips and mites thrive in the dry heat of April. Liquid dishwashing soap (at 2 oz per gal) will control both but be mindful that soap should not be applied to plants that are suffering from drought. Be sure that your plants are well hydrated before you apply soap. Water them extra hard the day before. To be effective soap must be used profusely. The plants should be washed in the solution to the point of wetting every nook and cranny of both the plant and its container. Only such thorough treatment can reach the reclusive thrips and be sure to touch all of the ever prolific mites. A second treatment at 7-10 days is necessary to control mites.

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/>

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Excerpted: "Florida Orchid Growing, Month by Month"

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An Opportunity to Spread the Love of Orchids

Hi Everyone,

A few weeks ago, a longtime member and friend Fred Gilbert reached out to me to see if the Society would be interested in mounting orchids in the courtyard of the assisted living facility, Stratford Court, where he lives. After speaking with Kathy, I have begun to move forward with our plan. This afternoon I did a site survey. This is what I found: A large patio area mostly shaded with a sunnier area toward the back; there are 18 palm trees, 3 medium large black olive (I think) trees where we can mount plants.

If you haven't guessed by now the reason I'm writing this is twofold:

1. Plants: I'm hoping that you have plants you can donate. We are hoping to mount 50-60 plants on the premises. It is the time of year where we all are starting to repot and divide our plants. When you are doing repotting and or dividing, if you have divisions you would like to donate, it would greatly be appreciated.
2. Volunteers: If you volunteer to mount the orchids, you won't regret it. Once we receive the plant donations, we will set up a date and time for us to mount the orchids. We are looking for 10 volunteers who are willing to assist in mounting the orchids.

I have been involved with several projects of this nature and have always come home tired and happy. The feeling of doing something to bring a little joy to other people more than makes up for the tired feeling.

Please contact me directly if you have plants you are willing to donate, and if you are willing to volunteer to help mount the orchids. As Kathy always says, our goal as a Society is to share our love of orchids. Sharing and mounting orchids in this facility will give their residents a beautiful courtyard that they can enjoy throughout the year and will put a smile on their faces when they see the beautiful orchids in bloom.

If you can help, please contact me at:

Poopsieann@icloud.com email

561-705-6892 Home phone

305-801-4923 Cell phone (for text messaging)

Please help us help Fred spread the love of orchids.

Hoping everyone is safe and well.

Sincerely,

Jay Collins

Note About A Product Last Month's Mentioned by Last Month's Speaker

(Thanks to Belinda Krause)

Green Barn Orchid Supply carries a product called Pro-TeKt that works just like Cloud Cover that our speaker mentioned. It also helps protect the orchids from a heat wave. It is \$11.95 for a 8 oz. bottle. Only needs 1/2 tsp. per gallon.

Show 'Em Where You Grow 'Em

Please send in photos of your growing situation. Show us your plant stands, places where you hang your plants, innovative ways that you display your orchids, etc. In this way we will share ideas for new ways to grow and display our orchids. Maximum of four photos, please.

Please send your photos and a brief description of how and where you grow your orchids to Cheryl Dodes at rcdodes@aol.com. When sending photos, please send the largest possible file size. This makes the photos more clear in the newsletter.

Below are some examples that we received this month. We are looking forward to seeing yours!



---With thanks to Sally Glick

This is the tree in the front of my house facing west. I have my dendrobium and phalaenopsis orchids in wooden baskets hanging from the branches.

This is a pergola that my brother and husband built for me. It faces east and has most of my vandals hanging from it. We have a screen on the top to shade them from the summer sun.



These are plant stands from Hang-a-Pot that I purchased at an orchid show. I have a variety of orchids on them. They are in the back of my house facing east.

Show 'Em Where You Grow 'Em



I have 5 pieces of drift wood that I purchased from a nursery. I have a variety of orchids, bromeliads and air plants attached to them. They are on the north side of my house leaning against the it. They get lots of light but not much sun. They are not all blooming however because I moved many of them when we moved to our new home. They are just getting reattached after the move. I hope this is enough info,if not call or email me and I will try to answer any questions you have. Thanks

Sally Glick 561-271-3002

Barbara Barrie's Show 'Em Where You Grow 'Em and An Opportunity for Members

On April 25th at 11:00 AM Barbara Barrie will host an informational seminar on Show 'Em How You Grow 'Em at her home in Boca Raton. Limited to 10 members who are new to the Society or new to growing. To sign up, please email Barbara at Rehabgroup@aol.com or call her at 561-998-3335.

The following photos are views of her garden.



The Ligustrum trees are so nice as they allow filtered light or dappled light for orchids that grow well in lower light. Usually Phalaenopsis, Cattleya, Dendrobium and other species.

Show 'Em Where You Grow 'Em



This garden faces North and Northwest and not only uses the Ligustrum trees for mounts and hanging plants but also has metal stands for orchids not hanging or mounted. You can also see that I use dry bamboo to fill in to hang plants inside of tree instead of tree limbs.

The pergola houses Vandas and other light-loving orchids.



Mokaras and other terete, light-loving orchids grow staked in wooden boxes on the ground.

This North facing garden is fertilized and watered by hand every 3-4 days in dry season, otherwise I rely on Mother Nature to provide.

Show 'Em Where You Grow 'Em

David and Eileen Magenheim grow various varieties of orchids on a tree at their home.



Members' Plants

All plants this page - Jay Collins. Plant names on the photos



Members' Plants



Dendrobium anosmum - Barbara Barrie

Dendrobium anosmum - Barbara Barrie



Members' Plants



Dendrobium aggregatum - Joyce Patterson



Dendrobium Love Memory - Joyce Patterson



No ID Cattleya - Patricia Hogan



Potinara Dick Smith 'Paradise' - Jay Collins



Dendrobium anosmum - Jay Collins



BLC Mahina Yahiro "Mishima" - Jay Collins



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BROS Board Meetings

***** Will be held on the Thursday prior to the Member Meeting
each month at 7 PM via Zoom**

Next Board Meetings:

April 1

May 6