

The Orchid Scentinel

BOCA RATON ORCHID SOCIETY



JUNE 2022

VOLUME 36

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

Guests are Always Welcome!

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Featuring~

Topic: Encyclias

Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022

Encyclias are extremely variable and range in size from 2 inch plants up to pseudobulbs the size of softballs with leaves 2 feet or more in length. In spite of this variability, they all share the common feature of a lip that, while not fused to the column, more or less enfolds it. The name Encyclia is derived from the Greek word enkyklein, which refers to the lip encircling the column. Commonly grown species are Encyclia cordigera (often seen horticulturally as Encylia atropurpurea, a completely misapplied name); Encyclia cochleata (now Prosthechea cochleata), Encyclia tampensis and Encyclia alata.

From Omar: "My orchid passion started after losing a loved one and moving back to Miami, Florida from Iowa City, Iowa. I could not garden here as the soil was different than Iowa. In 2013 I obtained a few orchids from David McClean, attended the Fairchild fall orchid show, traveled to Hilo, Hawaii and visited Carmela and other nurseries in the area. I was hooked up on my return to Florida.

Since then I've learned the pros and cons of orchid growing in South Florida. I grew indoors with lights and windowsills but found a yard was more spacious. I volunteered at Bonnet House Museum to divide huge Vandas, pot or mount Cattleya and other genera in their collection.

I helped professional growers in their nurseries get caught up with repotting and cleaning. They taught me orchid culture, history, and resilience. Then found my knowledge was helpful with sales and got into that as well for others and myself.

In no time at all I was into flasking, thanks in part to Tony Millet whom taught me the basics and Rafael Romero some advanced techniques. from speakers there. "



Omar Gonzalez

Future Programs

July 14: Movie: *Stig Dalstrom—Wild Orchid Man in the Ghost Orchid Swamp*. Dalström and Saffer trek deep into the heart of the Everglades to Florida's wildest swamp, the Fakahatchee, home to the rare Ghost Orchid, *Dendrophylax lindenii*. Swarms of mosquitos, alligators and snakes, poison ivy and fierce storms seem to guard the orchids hiding there.

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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 you enjoyed your Memorial Day weekend. For those of you who are back up north it signals the start of Summer. For us who live here year-round Summer has been here for several weeks. The heat is already unbearable, so get out there early in the morning to water and tend to your orchids. Stay hydrated and be safe.

I can't believe it's June already. Crazy, the year is flying by. If any of you made it to the Tamiami show, I hope you enjoyed it. It was extremely busy when we went on Friday, and yes, I did buy a few plants, as usual.

For those of you who joined us for our May meeting on Mounting, I hope you enjoyed it and the comedy show that Barbara and I put on for you, totally unintended, but I hope we were able to give you some helpful tips.

We as a Board are trying to give you monthly presentations that will assist you in growing your orchids, as well as speakers that will provide information that is valuable to you. We have been working with orchid vendors to purchase plants at a discounted price, and to sell them to our members for what we pay for them. I will explain it in detail at our June meeting. Bring your checkbooks or cash to our June meeting; we will have some great plants to sell at our meeting.

For those of you that were at our May meeting and saw the 2022 Boca Raton Garden Club annual ornament featuring the Boca Raton Orchid Society, it's absolutely beautiful. I was amazed that it was 3- dimensional. You can pre-order until June 9th for \$18; after that the price goes to \$20. It is the first time an organization has been featured on their ornament. I am so proud we are the first and that they chose our Society. Bring a check for \$18 per ornament made out to "BRGC" to the June 9 BROS meeting to order yours.

Please join us on June 9th for Omar Gonzalez, from Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society. He will be speaking on Encyclias, one of my favorite types of orchids. I hope you can make it to the meeting.

Just a reminder: Please see Abby Diab. She has a member list and we want to make sure all of your information is correct. We will be printing new member booklets this year.

I always forget to talk about this at our meetings. We have a library every month at our meeting. It is the big wooden cart that is always in the room. You are welcome to check books out of the library, read them at your leisure and return them when you are done. Debbie Seigel is our Librarian, and she can assist you if needed. Please take advantage of this great resource that we have available to you.

I hope your repotting and mounting is going well. It's that time of year to repot, divide and mount your orchids. Remember, September is our next Swap and Shop. Start thinking now of what you can bring to the event. We would like to have more participants for the next event.

We hope to see you June 9th at 7:30, take care of yourselves.

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

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. For those of us committed to sloth, this month is one in which benign neglect becomes a virtue.

With an eye to efficient drying which the season demands, June is an excellent time to review the spacing of our plants. Always give your plants sufficient space to allow for good air circulation to permit rapid drying. Crowded plants stay wetter longer encouraging fungus and bacteria. Scale and mealy bugs also thrive on the soft lush growth generated by overcrowded, overshadowed plants. Mites too love the extra protection from dislodging rain that overgrown plants provide.

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"

ORCHID EVENTS

The June 2022 judging at the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center will take place Saturday, June 25, 2022. 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 www.wpbjudging.org for more information or email Jackie Wood at bocaorchidlady@aol.com.

OCTOBER

Delray Beach Orchid Society Show and Sale, Saturday, October 22 and Sunday, October 23, 2022 at The Fieldhouse at Old School Square, Delray Beach, 51 N Swinton Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33444. Hours TBD.

NOVEMBER

Deerfield Beach Orchid Society Show and Sale, Saturday, November 12 and Sunday, November 13, 2022, at Safe Schools Institute, 1790 Spanish River Boulevard, Boca Raton, FL. Hours TBD.

*** 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

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS!

Maribel Beas
Denise Guzman
Phyllis Lieberman
Fran Plotnick
Madeleine Frankel

Boca Raton Orchid Society Ornament

Beginning in 1994, the Boca Raton Garden Club started issuing a series of commemorative ornaments.

This year's, the 28th one honors the Boca Raton Orchid Society. Each ornament honors an historic site in Boca Raton or a site of important significance to the city. A brochure is included in each gift box detailing the ornament's history. Ornaments are made of solid brass and finished in 24 carat gold plate. The cost per ornament is \$18, payable to BRGC. After June 9, the price goes to \$20.

The deadline for BROS members to place their orders is June 9, 2022. The easiest way to order is to bring a check for \$18 for each ornament desired made out to "BRGC" to the June 9, 2022 BROS meeting, or mail to: Boca Raton Orchid Society, PO Box 276367, Boca Raton, FL 33427

Here's a link to the BRGC ornament collection:

http://bocaratongardenclub.org/brgc_all_ornaments.html



Newbie Corner by Janice Larit

Fragrant Orchids

On a group “buy” a few years ago from one of our lecturers, my orchid came home. I purchased a *Bulbophyllum*. Only then did I discover not all orchids are considered “fragrant” in the sense we attribute to the word.

In perusing the Better Gro* website I found a definitive listing of plants that they sell which are fragrant in a positive sense and others- not so much.

Sweet Smelling Orchids:

Brassavola Nodosa- (Lady of the Night) – a Lily of the Valley scent.

Cattleya walkeriana semi alba- scent of cinnamon and vanilla.

Onc. Sharry Baby—smells like chocolate.

Encyclia cordigera- a sophisticated fragrance of chocolate Akiko s and roses.

Encyclia alata majus sweet honey smell.

Rhynchostylis gigantea- a citrus smell.

Epilaeliocattleya Golden Sunburst- a potent and pleasant scent of citrus.

Rlc. Akiko Sato “Volcano Queen”-a strong, spicy, exotic scent.

Foul Smelling Orchids described as smelling like decaying matter.

Some of the worse smelling Orchids are in the *Bulbophyllum* genus:

Bulbophyllum beccarii- scent of decaying animals.

Bulbophyllum echinolabium-smells like dog droppings (their words not mine).

Bulbophyllum carunculatum- rotting brie.

Bulbophyllum psychoon- may smell like rotting fish or pond scum. (*Ancistrus rothschildianus* and *Gastrochilus calceolaris* included- just look at these names and you’ll understand why!)

These plants may send you running but remember they are there to attract insects that thrive on decaying matter.

Fragrances help to attract pollinators. Often an orchid’s scent is tailored for a specific pollinator:

Ophrys and *Chiloglottis* have fragrances that mimic bees’ and wasps’ pheromones.

Sweet smelling red and yellow orchids attract hummingbirds.

Sweet smelling purple, blue, and yellow orchids attract bees.

Foul smelling attract flies, beetles and gnats.

Orchids smell best in the morning and evening when the pollinators are on the prowl. They also smell stronger on warm, sunny days rather than cool, cloudy ones. When buying new “chids” be sure to inquire about fragrance.

Lastly, every now and then I get a whiff of something amiss to be polite. And then I know where I located my *Bulbophyllum*. Whatever choice you make, enjoy your orchids and the beauty they bring into our lives.

**Thanks to the Better Gro website for providing much of this information.*

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. 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!

The winners in May were...

Name	Category	Ribbon	Orchid Name
Jay Collins	Misc. Genera	Blue	Maxillaria tenuifolia
Robert Finocchi	Species	Blue	C. schilleriana
Teresa O'Neil	Vanda	Blue	Vanda Pachara
Robert Finocchi	Cattleya Unifoliolate	Blue	C. mossiae 'Veronica' x 'Julieta Bosque'
Robert Finocchi	Species	Blue	Catasetum macroglossum
Teresa O'Neil	Other Catt. Alliance	Blue	MCY Lanny Morry
Teresa O'Neil	Brassavola	Blue	Br Envy (B. Ena) Golden Sunburst
Kathy Kersey	Epidendrum/Encyclia	Blue	Enc. Jungle Nights
Kathy Kersey	Misc. Genera	Best Blue	Schom. thompsoniana

→ Congratulations to Kathy Kersey!



Schom. Thompsoniana—Kathy Kersey

May Blue Ribbon Plants



Maxillaria tenuifolia—Jay Collins



Cattleya schilleriana—Robert Finocchi



Vanda Pachara—Teresa O'Neil



C. mossiae 'Veronica' x 'Julietta Bosque' - Roberto Finocchi



Catasetum macroglossum—Robert Finocchi



MCY Lanny Morry—Teresa O'Neil

May Blue Ribbon Plants



Envy (B. Ena) Golden Sunburst—Teresa O'Neil



Enc. Jungle Nights—Kathy Kersey



**Schom. thompsoniana—Kathy Kersey
Best Blue Ribbon Winner**

Please help make our meetings more enjoyable by providing a tasty treat for all to share. Suggestions include cookies, cut-up cake, chips, cut-up fruit, nuts, raisins, etc.

Thanks to the following people for providing snacks at our May meeting:



Janice Larit Cheryl Dodes
Jann Miller Teresa O'Neil
Donna Swanson Marguerite Tschada Horras



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Board Meetings

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

Next meetings:

June 2

July 7