# The Orchid Scentinel

**VOLUME 36** 



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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Featurina-

AUGUST 2022

Presenter: AOS Judge, Carol Holdren

**Topic:** 10 Orchids that Belong in Your Collection

Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022

Carol Holdren is a long time orchid lover with a mission of supporting orchidists and orchid societies. Like many orchid hobbyists she started with a purple Vanda bought at a local garden show. That orchid led to several others as well as membership and participation in a local orchid society. As her collection grew she took a class in Orchidology at the University of Florida and joined the West Palm Beach Judging Center, becoming an accredited judge in 2003. Carol is a former AOS Trustee, active in the West Palm Beach Judging Center, on the Board for Flamingo Gardens and a director of the International Orchid Foundation which has a free orchid web site: www.Orchids.org.

ISSUE 8

Carol has gathered information of easy to grow orchids for South Florida. She will be sharing her findings in her presentation "Orchids You Should Own" giving orchid information for both beginners as well as the more experienced grower.

BROS members may sell their plants at this meeting. Please see the rules on page 4. 10% of your total sales must go to the BROS Treasurer that evening.



**Carol Holdren** 

## **Future Programs**

<u>September 8:</u> Orchid Swap n' Shop <u>October 13:</u> Jay Collins: Kokedama Demonstration

**Contact US** 

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



**PRESIDENT Kathy Kersey** 954-802-3575

**VICE PRESIDENT, PROGRAMS Janice Larit** 917-566-9222

VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP

**Abby Diab** 561-843-0999

**TREASURER** Veronica Risko 561-391-5019 RECORDING SECRETARY Janice Larit 917-566-9222

#### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

**Meryl Charnow** 561-945-1099

**DIRECTORS** 

Alan LaDuke 561-789-2465

**Marilyn Collins** 201-404-3715

**Barbara Barrie** 561-998-3335

**LIBRARIAN Debbie Siegel** 561-445-3759

**PHOTOGRAPHER & WEB Scott Joffe** 561-272-0546

> **EDITOR Cheryl Dodes** 516-521-9687

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 know quite a few of you have been traveling during the summer. I hope you had a great time and went to some wonderful places.

It's still extremely HOT outside. Even though we have had a few rain showers and thunderstorms lately, our orchids are still in need of additional watering and fertilizer. Remember... get out there early to fertilize, otherwise you may burn your plants. Stay hydrated and be safe. With the feels-like temps in the triple digits, it doesn't take long to get overheated. Another thing to think about is your plants getting sunburned. With the sun moving, some of our plants are getting more sun than maybe they were before. If you notice a change in the color of their leaves, touch the leaves. If they feel hot to the touch, they are probably getting too much sun, and need to be given a little more shade in the heat of the day.

Thank you to those who attended our July movie night. Sorry for the delay in getting started. Computers are a wonderful thing, but sometimes they just don't cooperate. I hope you enjoyed the movie and popcorn (I know I did). I also hope you liked the amazing raffle table we had. We also sold all but 2 of the remaining Encyclias from June. I hope you enjoy your purchases.

If you ordered a commemorative BROS ornament and were not at the July meeting, please see Veronica at our August meeting to pick yours up. They are truly beautiful, and it is such an honor to be the first organization picked by the Boca Raton Garden Club to be represented on an ornament. Thank you again to the Garden Club.

I hope you are preparing for our September 8 meeting, which will be the Swap & Shop. I apologize that I did not have the sign-up sheet ready at the July meeting. It will be at the August meeting. Please put your name, phone number and how many tables you will need. I am looking forward to another great event. If you have any questions, feel free to ask.

Please join us on August 11 for our guest speaker, Carol Holdren. She is an AOS judge and will be speaking about "10 orchids you should have in your collection" We will be selling some of the plants she will be speaking about, so bring your checkbooks or cash.

Mark your calendars for October 13. Jay Collins will be doing a presentation on making a Kokedama. The exciting part is YOU GET TO MAKE ONE TOO!!! Jay is working very hard to put this all together. We will be providing everything you will need to complete your project. When you are done, you get to take it home.

The rack cards for our 2023 show are being printed, and we will start all the wheels in motion in September. The new membership booklet is also being printed. With so many new members, we hope to get them to you very soon.

Looking forward to seeing you on August 11. I hope you can make it. Take care of yourself and be safe.

Kathy

**Orchid Kokedama** 



## 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 August**

by Dr. Martin Motes

July and August are the two most similar months in South Florida. Most of the advice on watering, disease and pest control in last month's calendar still apply but subtle changes are taking place. Although it may not seem so, as temperatures climb into the low nineties most afternoons, summer is in retreat: each day a little shorter, each night a little longer. With shorter days the importance of watering as early in the morning as possible comes to the fore. With less hours of sunlight to dry the plants, extra care should be taken in choosing when to water. Back to the basics of the classic saying: If a Vanda looks like it needs water, water it; If a Cattleya or Oncidium looks like it needs water, water it tomorrow. If a Paph or a Phal looks like it needs water, you should have watered it yesterday. If plants retain water even from an early morning watering, allowing them to dry a bit harder before the next watering is always a good idea. An extra day of drying rarely does harm.

Good air circulation and proper watering are the keys to disease prevention. Remember that your plants will have increased considerably in size by this point in the growing season. They have added extra growths and extra leaves across the summer. August is a good time to evaluate the spacing of our plants. Remember the old Florida saw that one needs a cat to grow good orchids because when properly spaced a cat should be able to navigate the benches between plants without knocking them over. While we can not recommend specific chemicals, the county agent recommends Banrot, a convenient combination of Thiophanate-methyl and Truban which controls a number of leaf-spotting diseases and soft rots, for home owner use. A combination of Thiophanate-methyl and mancozeb has also been recommended. This can be found pre-packaged as Duosan. If one can over come the aversion to chemicals and can learn the safe application of them, they are valuable tools to better orchid growing. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure especially before the soft, slow drizzle of September sets in.

## **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 August 2022 judging at the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center will take place Saturday, August 27, 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

## **BROS Member Plant Sales**

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

## Four simple rules:

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

## Your Orchid Label Explained (Thanks to Marilyn Collins)

Newbies often wonder what the big deal is about the plant tag in their new orchid. It is a very big deal. It is the best clue to how to take care of that orchid. But what do all those words mean?

The first word on the label is the genus. Genus is part of the scientific name for a plant. Intergenerics occur when two or more genera are crossed. An example is Blc or Brassalaeliocattleya, made of the genera Brassavola, Laelia and Cattleya. This word is usually capitalized and sometimes abbreviated, for example Phalaenopsis becomes Phal. A list of orchid genera and intergenerics can be found here:

#### https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/pdfs/plant-registration-forms/orchid-name-abbreviations-list.pdf

By looking at the second word in the name, you can tell whether the orchid is a species or a grex. Species, by definition, are produced in nature. When an orchid is a man-made hybrid, the second part of the name is referred to as the "grex" name. A species name is always in Latin and in lower-case, whereas a grex name is capitalized and is never in Latin.

The third part of the label is the cultivar (or clonal) name. These names exist for orchids that are somehow superior. Not all orchids have a cultivar name. Cultivar names can be 'inherited'; if an orchid was propagated by division, mericloning or selfing, then it gets the same cultivar name because it shares the exact same DNA with the original orchid plant. The cultivar name is always in single quotes and is always capitalized.

The last part of the orchid name signifies the award designation and states that this cultivar is superior and has earned an award. American Orchid Society has 10 types of awards that can be attached to an orchid name. The American Orchid Society has trained judges who will score the orchid plant based on various criteria.

"HCC "(Highly Commended Certificate) Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 75 to 79 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

"AM" (Award of Merit) Awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 80 to 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

"FCC "(First Class Certificate) The highest flower-quality award, awarded to orchid species or hybrids scoring 90 points or more on a 100-point scale.

"JC" (Judges' Commendation) Given for distinctive characteristics that the judges unanimously feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in the customary ways.

"AD" (Award of Distinction) Awarded once to a cross representing a worthy new direction in Breeding. The award is granted unanimously without scoring by the judging team assigned.

"AQ" (Award of Quality) Awarded once to a cross exhibited by a single individual as a group of not less than 12 plants or inflorescences of different clones of a hybrid or cultivated species. At least one of the inflorescences must receive a flower quality award and the overall quality of the group must be an improvement over the former type.

"CBR" (Certificate of Botanical Recognition) Awarded to rare and unusual species with educational interest that has received no previous awards. The entire plant must be exhibited. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification supplied by the exhibitor. (see Taxonomic Authorities)

"CHM" (Certificate of Horticultural Merit) Awarded to a well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrid with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology, such as aesthetic appeal. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending taxonomic verification supplied by the exhibitor. (see Taxonomic Authorities)

"CCM" (Certificate of Cultural Merit) Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must have been in the care of the exhibitor at least 12 months immediately prior to the award and must score between 80 and 89 points inclusive on a 100-point scale.

"CCE" (Certificate of Cultural Excellence) Awarded to the exhibitor of a well-flowered specimen plant of robust health. The plant must have been in the care of the exhibitor at least 12 months immediately prior to the award and must score at least 90 points on a 100-point scale. Plants receiving this award represent the highest level of orchid culture." -from AOS website

Some other things that might appear on your plant's label:

4N - means that the plant is a tetraploid and has double the normal number of chromosomes than a normal plant of that species or hybrid. Also, Country of origin, cool, intermediate, or warm grower, name of grower.

## Newbie Corner by Janice Larit—Suggestions for Choosing Plants Requiring Minimal Care

Being of sound mind and minimal orchid experience, I constantly surf the web for articles that may be of use to me and my beginner/novice brethren. So when I came upon this article I felt excerpts would be worthy of sharing. I personally maintain at least four of the orchids mentioned in the article below: the angraceum, Bl. Yellow Bird, Psh. Cochleata (the newest of the four), and Onc. Sweet Sugar. All have bloomed at least once or twice. So read on and perhaps you can find some tips that might work for you.

In general orchids that might be easy for one person to grow might prove difficult for another person. The author of the article, Ken Slump says that he has found the following information to be helpful: "First, one must define an easy orchid. For me, it is a relatively undemanding plant that can survive and flower in a somewhat wide range of growing conditions. Ability to withstand occasional neglect or abuse is certainly a plus too.

With these things in mind, one would typically look to hybrid orchids over naturally occurring species. Because species orchids have evolved to thrive in a particular ecology, they can wane if those conditions are not met in cultivation. Hybrids are frequently more tolerant of their environments because they receive genetic material from parents that each may have evolved to thrive in very different situations".

Mr. Slump recommended the following orchids that have grown successfully for him:

PHALAENOPSIS: the hybrids can be grown rather quickly to flowering size. The flowers are pleasing and long lasting and, generally speaking, the hybrids behave like typical houseplants — if you provide them with rather bright indoor light and water them once or twice a week they tend to thrive.

THESE 10 recommendations include both species and hybrids.

Angraecum sesquipedale — A dramatic species with fragrant and showy star-shaped flowers.

Brassolaelia Yellow Bird (B. nodosa × Richard Mueller) — Like most Brassavola nodosa hybrids, this one is rather fast growing and trouble free.

Cattleya Chocolate Drop (guttata × aurantiaca) — Many cattleyas and their hybrids are of comparatively easy culture, but like many Cattleya aurantiaca hybrids, this one is among the easiest.

Dendrobium Emma 'White' (Gillian Leaney × tetragonum) — The genus Dendrobium is extremely diverse in type as well as ease of culture. This one produced multiple sprays of white flowers for me every winter with no fuss.

Prosthechea cochleata (syn. Encyclia cochleata, Epidendrum cochleatum, Anacheillium cochleatum) — The cockleshell orchid is among the easiest and most free-flowering of orchid species.

Neostylis Lou Sneary (Neo. falcata  $\times$  Rhy. coelestis) — A charming hybrid of the vandaceous miniature Neofinetia falcata, this one would be ideal for the grower without the room or growing conditions for a full-sized vanda.

Oncidium Sweet Sugar (Aloha Iwanaga × varicosum) — This is just one of many easy-to-grow oncidium hybrids.

Paphiopedilum Maudiae (callosum × lawrenceanum) — Here is an ideal slipper orchid for the beginner.

Phalaenopsis Baldan's Kaleidoscope (Hausermann's Candy × Daryl Lockhart) — Even among the comparatively carefree phalaenopsis, this one stands out.

Zygopetalum Mackay — Most of the Zygopetalum species and their hybrids are rather tolerant of neglect.

## Thanks to Our Members Who Help Out At Our Meetings Each Month:

Abby Diab—Membership

Veronica Risko—Treasurer

Belinda Krause—Member Plant Table

Scott Joffe—Member Plant Photographer

Teresa O'Neil—Hospitality

**Debbie Siegel—Librarian** 

Alan LaDuke—Raffles

## Thanks Also to Our Board Members Who Fill in Where Needed

Kathy Kersey, Janice Larit, Barbara Barrie, Cheryl Dodes,

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 July meeting:

Shirley Schneider

Cheryl Dodes

Jann Miller



Janice Larit Josephine Paterson Donna Swanson

## **Board Meetings**

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

August 4

September 1

# **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.

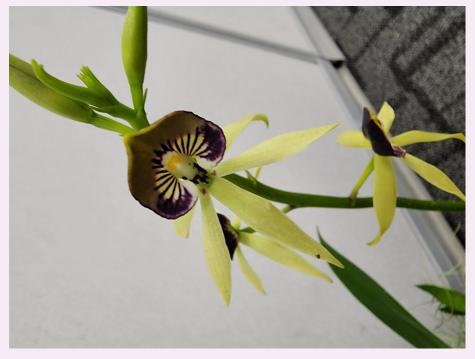
- 1. Clearly print the orchid name and your full name.
- 2. It must be featured in the correct category.
- 3. You must have owned the orchid for at least six months.
- 4. The plant must not have insects or disease.
- 5. Display your orchid in an attractive container.
- 6. Each plant registered earns you a FREE raffle ticket!

# The winners in July were...

Name	Category	Ribbon	Orchid Name
Roderick Lewis	Brassavola	Blue	Brassavola David Sander
Denise Guzman	Oncidium Alliance	Blue	Odonto Brassia Roguebono Spyder
Shirley Schneider	Epidendrum	Blue	Epi Greenhornet Cochleatum x Lanefor-



## Best in Show—Congratulations Shirley!



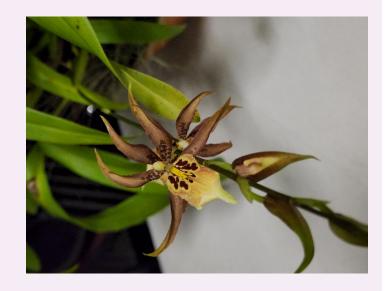
Epi Greenhornet Cochleatum x Laneforlium—Shirley Schneider

# July Blue Ribbon Plants



Brassavola David Sander—Roderick Lewis

Odonto Brassia Roguebono Spider—Denise Guzman





Epi Greenhornet Cochleatum x Laneiforlium
Shirley Schneider





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Welcome New and Returning Members
Kathy Burns
Ann Newmann
Georgia Winfield
Marlene Williams
Myra Mahl
We're so glad to have you join the fun!