

The Orchid

BOCA RATON ORCHID SOCIETY



Scentinel

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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!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Oct. Program	1
Board of Directors	2
President's Message	2
Tasks for October	3
Membership	3
Orchid Events	4
Home Remedies	5
GREATideas	6
General Information	7
Ad & New Member	8

Featuring~

Program: Kokedama Demonstration
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 7:30PM

We have a real treat for our members at the October BROS meeting!

Former BROS President Jay Collins will show us how to make our very own Kokedama!

In English, "Kokedama" is the art of growing ornamental plants in a ball covered with moss. It is also called "poor man's bonsai".

Tonight we are going to do something a little different: to learn by doing. Jay will lead the program and members will have the opportunity to build a moss ball, mount an orchid on it, then take it home. All supplies will be provided by your Society: plant, moss, mix for the center, string for attachment, and wire for hanging the finished product. Quantities are limited to the first 50, so come early to get set up.

A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

Wear older clothes or bring an apron (moss and center mix will be wet/damp)

Pair up or work in groups. Everything can be done alone, but an extra hand is very handy for several of the steps.

Tonight's program is very different. Jay would greatly appreciate any and all feedback that you care to share.

Thanks!



Future Programs

November 10: Jim Davison: (The Four Horsemen) - mainstays for breeding of orchid families

December 9: Our annual Holiday Meeting with Fun Activities

Contact US

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



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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 safe.

As I am writing this letter, Hurricane Ian is hitting the West Coast of Florida. Our East Coast has been getting slammed with rain and wind for a couple of days. I hope your orchids survived the wind.

Also, as I am writing this I am not in Florida. I am in North Carolina with my husband. We left Saturday on vacation, that was planned back in January. Unfortunately, my orchids are at the mercy of my children. Thank goodness for my neighbor Don Zimmermann; he went down the street to assess my orchids.

I hope all of you made it through the storm unscathed, and that your orchid collections were spared. I look forward to seeing you on October 13th.

For those of you who attended our September Swap & Shop, I hope you enjoyed yourself. Thank you to all who participated in the event. Our next Swap & Shop is tentatively scheduled for our March 2023 meeting.

Just an update... I sent out invitations to our orchid vendors last week for our Valentines show. I will be sending out invitations to the lobby vendors when I return home from vacation. Just an FYI... all our vendors are from Florida, four are in South Florida, and all the rest are in Central Florida. I truly hope they all made it through the storm with minimal damage.

The Redlands Orchid show is being held October 7-9, at Fruit and Spice Park in Homestead. If you are available, it is a wonderful show. It never disappoints and has international vendors as well.

Please join us for our October 13th meeting. Jay Collins will be doing a Kokedama demonstration. Not only will he be demonstrating how to assemble from start to finish, but you get to make one as well. You get to take home your own Kokedama creation. I hope you can make it; it will be a fun evening.

Last, in preparation for our upcoming Orchid show, February 11 and 12, 2023, we will have the volunteer sign up boards at the October meeting. I will also start taking orders for our Society tee shirts.

We started passing out invoices for the 2023 calendar year at our September meeting. Please see Veronica to pay your dues. You can also mail them to our BROS P.O. Box. Checks are preferred, but cash is always welcome. Payment for the 2023 fiscal year is due by December 31. Your prompt attention is appreciated.

I look forward to seeing each and every one of you soon,

Kathy



Tasks for October

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

October is a month of change in South Florida. If the Romans had lived here where we do, they would have named this month for their two faced god Janus. Usually around the middle of the month, and certainly by the end of the month, the first strong cold front pushes into South Florida bringing to a close the monolithic heat and damp of summer and ushering in weather as most of the continent knows it, alternating periods of warmer and cooler. Although warm temperatures will persist for another month or so until the technical end of the hurricane season, the tropics are in retreat and the temperate zone in the ascendancy. Each successive cold front foreshadowed by ever lessening rain storms will progressively cool our temperatures and dry our air. But days are shortening too, providing less hours of sunlight to heat the air and slowing the drying process. Nights are longer and cooler which produces the same effect, slower drying. Now we must start to move into the consciousness of winter and take greater care to insure that our plants are thoroughly dry before we water them again. The shorter days of October dictate that we rise even earlier to water if necessary. Each extra hour of daylight is to be cherished by us as well as our plants.

Many cattleyas, laelias, oncidiums, and phalaenopsis-type dendrobiums will be finishing their growths and should be hardened off with reduced water and fertilizer but not the Spartan regime of the deciduous type. Lower nitrogen fertilizer applied at a lower rate and with less frequency will make these genera happy and prevent them from breaking into unwanted off-season growth that frequently hampers flowering as well. Many growers tend to use higher phosphorus, lower nitrogen fertilizers of the "Bloom Booster" type during the cooler weather. But less frequent applications of the recommended 15-5-15 is a better strategy. These applications should be spaced further apart as well, at ten to twelve day intervals. Less frequent watering will also do for these genera. When the frontal rains pass through, check to see that the pots are thoroughly wet by giving them the "heft" test and if they are not heavy enough "top them up." Let them dry 'hard' before watering again. In cool weather especially, less is more.

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 October 2022 judging at the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center will take place Saturday, October 22, 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

Redland International Orchid Festival, October 7-9 at Redland Fruit & Spice Park, 24801 SW 187th Ave, Homestead, FL 33031. More info: martinmotes@gmail.com

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. Judging is being held on Saturday October 22 at 8 AM.

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, 10 AM—5 PM both days. Admission \$5.00 pp; Children under 12 free.

East Everglades Orchid Society Show, November 13 in the Banyon Pavilion at R.F. Orchids, 28100 SW 182 Ave, Homestead, FL 33030. More info, Tere Camacho, 305-401-8807. tere@bellsouth.net

*** 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



Home Remedies for Orchid Pests

By Susan Jones

Hand Picking

The first line of defense, if a plant is not heavily affected by pests, is to pick bugs, slugs and snails from the plant and squash them. Pests have yet to develop a resistance to this type of control.

Water

Pests like mites are usually most severe on plants in heated homes during the winter, when the air is dry and there are no natural enemies to keep them under control. Raising the ambient humidity through humidity trays, saucers of damp pebbles placed under each plant, or even a room humidifier can help.

For mites, aphids, mealybugs and other insects, a gentle brush or jet of water can kill and dislodge them from plants. Regularly washing the foliage thoroughly with soapy water, wiping every leaf and rinsing with a sink sprayer is one way to bring populations down.

Soaking is a third way water can be used to combat insects. Completely immerse the pot and potting medium of the affected plant in a bucket of water overnight to evict ants, roaches, sow bugs and pill bugs from the medium.

Rubbing Alcohol

Soak a cotton swab in 70 percent isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and dab scale, mealybugs, mites and aphids off orchids. The alcohol dissolves the insect's waxy covering and is a good tool to reach the pests hidden down in the sheaths and leaf crevices. Pay particular attention to the midrib, other veins, and leaf edges. Repeat the treatment at seven-to-10-day intervals to remove successive generations.

Another method is to spray alcohol, mixed with a few drops of mild liquid soap, from a misting bottle or small pump sprayer. Avoid strong or excessive amounts of detergent, as this may damage your plants, particularly buds and flowers.

Alcohol can be combined with insecticidal soaps, but not with oil, and should never be used near fire. One of the advantages to using alcohol is that insects do not develop resistance to the treatments.

Insecticidal soaps (Safer) smother pests and dissolve their cuticle (outer covering). For a heavy infestation, the affected plant(s) must be completely covered. They are most effective against soft-bodied pests such as aphids and mealybugs. While considered safe, these soaps may still damage some plants, particularly tender new tissues, especially when mixed with hard water. They can also cause allergies and respiratory problems for users.

Growth regulators and chitin inhibitors offer other options. Growth regulators, such as Enstar, kill eggs and prevent insect maturation in scale, mealybugs, aphids and whitefly. It needs a spreader-sticker (silicon works best) to be effective.

Yet another choice is Orange Guard, a 100-percent biodegradable and water-soluble insecticide made from orange peel extract that is considered safe for use around humans, pets and food. Orange Guard kills and repels ants and roaches.

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GREATIdeas by Ed Wright and Bill Tippit

We are embarrassed to write on this subject, but it responds to the most-asked-question we receive: “What insecticide do you use?” The answer (within limits): “None”

Every user should try new things on just a plant or two and observe the results under local conditions before doing anything new on a large scale. Always good advice, but essential when dealing with plant basics like food, media, and insecticides.

The preparation we use first for all insects is mixed in a clean gallon (3.785-L) jug. We pour in one pint (0.5 L) of rubbing alcohol then fill the alcohol container with 409 cleaner so that we add a pint (0.5 L) of that to the same jug. We then fill the jug with tap water, agitate the mixture and fill hand sprayers sold at garden centers and hardware stores.

Each sprayer is labeled ALC + 409 with a felt tip pen before filling so we can tell at a glance what the mixture is. The same entry is on the gallon (3.785-L) jug. When we see an insect, we spray it. If we see red-spider mite damage, both sides of the leaf or leaves are sprayed. If scale is the culprit, we soak a cotton ball in our mix and gently scrub the infested area to penetrate the scale’s armored shell. That’s the extent of our basic insect-control program. We do not do preventive spraying for any insect. Under no circumstances would we ever touch an orchid leaf with a toothbrush. (Toothbrushes are made to polish the hardest exposed surface in the human body. Any use on plant tissue will produce small cuts that provide an open route for pathogens to attack the plant.)

Under our growing conditions we have no problem with this mixture, regardless of the genus on which it is used. It kills bugs, is kind to our plants and ourselves, and is economical. In hot weather, the spray does have a slight tendency to dry buds on phalaenopsis, dendrobiums, and blast buds and flowers on paphiopedilums, but then everything else does too. Other than that, we have never seen damage on any orchid plant that we felt was caused by the spray. If an insect persists, we do not hesitate to use more – exotic insecticides, but our use of commercial insecticides has dropped about 80 percent since we began the “Mix” as our first treatment.

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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
4. 10% of your total sales must go to the BROS Treasurer that night

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 September meeting:

Mary Waggoner
Cheryl Dodes
Jann Miller



Board Meetings

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

October 6

November 3

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!



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**Welcome New Member
Allen Trauben**