



# Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

## **CATTLEYA CURRENTS**

April 2016

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Lets begin the month by thanking everyone who supported the club by coming out to the March Auction. Not only did we have a great time but any profits from this event go toward funding other club events, such as our upcoming Picnic. That's what I call a win-win situation.

Many thanks to everyone who lent their time to help on the production end of the process and also to those who donated items to the cause. We were very fortunate this year to receive sizable donations from the collections of Juan and Tonky Bofill and also Meredith Scott so heartfelt thank you's for your generosity. We certainly had some happy campers toting off some of those jewels!

Our guest speaker for the April 12 meeting is Luis Del Pino of Rios Orchids in Homestead. Their operation specializes in hybridizing and flasking of plants for resale to growers across the country and Luis will be sharing some of fundamentals of this process. Some of you already know Luis as a past vendor at our November Shows!

So back to the previously mentioned Picnic. It will be held on Sunday, April 24th and we will have further information and sign-up sheets available at the meeting. Cheryl and John are trying to wrap up the info for the 2016 Roster so if you haven't renewed your dues, please stop in and see them at the Membership table.

Hope to see you all at the meeting and as always, bring a friend.

Vince

# *Happy Birthday*

John Morris Apr 2

Janet Peer Apr 4

Mary Sue Donaldson Apr 6

James Peer Apr 8

Linda Woodhouse Apr 14

John Alessio Apr 17

Jesus Hill Apr 20

Denise Rouah Apr 22

Lisa Sarno Apr 25

Elaine Mende Apr 30



## **Upcoming Speakers**

**April — Luis Del Pino “From Flask to Finish”**

# Highlights From Our Auction

Photos courtesy of John Morris



# Speaker of the Month

*Luis del Pino of Rio Orchids*

Luis del Pino, Rio Orchids, will focus his presentation on Orchid Propagation methods that have been in place for over 50 years. He will cover orchid pollination, flasking, seedlings, divisions, off shoots, back bulbs, and cuttings.

In this day and age, all over the orchid community, we see long time growers and nursery owners retiring or just going out of business. We are delighted to report that there is a young couple, Luis del Pino and Angie Villanueva, right in our own backyard that are ready to take on the challenge of turning their dreams of being collectors into a commercial nursery operation.

Villanueva and Del Pino purchased Ruben Sauleda's nursery, Ruben in Orchids, and from the beginning they started to add their own touch. The couple added new offices, remodeled the greenhouses, and brought the beautiful grounds back to life. Also, they changed the name to Rio Orchids. Day-to-day management at the nursery is run by Richard, who worked with Ruben for over 30 years.

They continue to specialize in orchid flasking. At Rio they cross their own amazing hybrids, which they sell to growers all over the world. They also maintain a supply of species, both native and from all over the world, and they have one of the largest varieties of orchids for sale in Florida. Plus, they are all grown locally to thrive in our South Florida environment.

# Come Join Us For Our Annual Picnic

**Where:** Quiet Waters Park, Deerfield Beach, Shelter #1

**When:** Sunday, April 24, 2016

**Time:** 12pm Noon

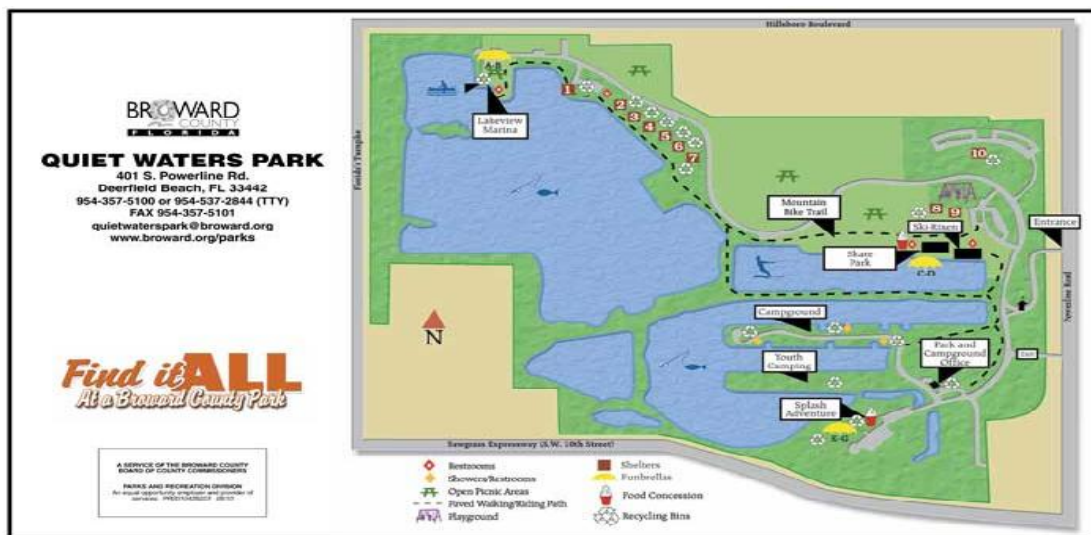
We are having our picnic at Quiet Waters Park once again. There will be a large covered pavilion away from other parties and close to the bathrooms. There will be chances to win orchids!

The Society will be providing the meats for the BBQ (Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Pulled Pork), please bring an appetizer, a side dish or a dessert.

Beer and Wine are permitted at the park, so BYOB if you choose.

Please sign up at the meeting to let us know you're coming and what you will be bringing. If you will not be at the meeting, send an email to [Deerfieldorchids@gmail.com](mailto:Deerfieldorchids@gmail.com)

Make a right after ticket booth and follow road all the way to the back.



## Time to Renew Your DBOS 2016 Membership Immediately

Hello DBOS 2015 members. This is your last chance to renew your membership for 2016 and to be included in the 2016 membership directory.

Individual membership renewal is \$20.00/year, and \$30/year for a couple. Please make your check payable to the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society and send it immediately to the attention of Cheryl Babcock, Deerfield Beach Orchid Society, PO Box 732, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441. We must receive your check by Tuesday, April 14, or you can bring it with you to the April 14 monthly meeting.

We certainly do hope that you plan to renew. We have had a great year, and we have many more fun activities planned for the membership in addition to the informative monthly meetings. A few of our upcoming activities include our annual picnic on Sunday, April 24 at Quiet Waters Park; our annual bus trip this fall; our 5<sup>th</sup> annual show and sale on the weekend before Thanksgiving, November 19-20, at the Emma Lou Olson Civic Center; and, our annual holiday party in early December. Check at [www.deerfieldbeachorchidsociety.org](http://www.deerfieldbeachorchidsociety.org) to see our monthly newsletters and dates for upcoming activities.

If you will not be renewing at this time, once your schedule clears we will be happy to have you join us again and pay your membership dues.

Cheryl Babcock and John Williams

**Welcome New Members!!**

**Jennifer Fox**

**Liz Huffman**

**Debbie McManus**

## **New for 2016 - - - - A Chance to win \$250!!**

**Beginning in 2016 the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society will implement a new 'point' system.**

**For every monthly meeting, society event, ramble you attend etc. (details below) you will be given points. At the end of the year, if you have received 11 points or greater you will be eligible to win \$250 from the Society. All qualifying members' names will be put in a hat and a winner will be picked at our annual Holiday Party.**

<b>Monthly Meeting</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Picnic</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Home Ramble</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Bus Trip</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Volunteer at Show</b>	<b>2 Points</b>

**Please remember to sign in at the monthly meetings or you might lose your points!**

**\*\*All DBOS Board members will be excluded from this event.**

## April in Your Orchid Collection

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.

The new shoots of *Oncidinae*, grammatophyllums and dendrobiums are quite cup-like; care must be taken that water does not stand too long in these immature growths. Water these types very thoroughly with two or three applications of water spaced 10-15 minutes apart. Water should run freely through the pot on each application. Saturated thoroughly in this fashion the plants will need only weekly watering. Even more care should be taken with the soft plicate leafed genera like *Catasetum*, *Mormodes*, *Cycnoches*, *Gongora*, *Calanthe* and *Thunia*. The new growths of this type are rolled together (the fancy word is convolute) like a collapsible drinking cup. These should be grown in water retentive media that should be saturated at each watering to permit the developing roots to have abundant water but allow the vulnerable new growth extra time to dry. Feel the weight of a pot when you have finished watering. Be sure it is heavy with water. If it's not water one more time. With plants properly spaced, good drying should not be difficult in the hot dry air of April. But do be careful to water early enough in the day to allow the tender new growth to thoroughly dry by twilight.

With vandaceous orchids grown in slatted baskets, most growers find that they dry altogether too well in April. Vandas can be watered almost every morning in April. Indeed, a second light watering or misting in mid-afternoon in April and early May is often beneficial provided the crowns and leaf axils of the plants have time to dry completely by nightfall. Another strategy under high drying conditions is to bend the rules, at least occasionally, and water heavily in mid to late morning. Late waterings on weekend mornings (you didn't want to get up early, any way) provide relief for plants that are more stressed on week days with their owners absent. Very occasionally, one needs to break the rules absolutely and water thoroughly (not just mist) in the mid to late afternoon so the plants can slowly absorb the water across the cool hours of the night. This is the season that one must be sure that Vanda roots have turned overall dark green when we have finished watering. Two applications of water to the point of runoff spaced several minutes apart should accomplish the required color change from white to totally green. Saturated roots are absolutely necessary to provide the plants the moisture the plants need to withstand the heat and dry air typical of April. Sometimes, particularly at this season, the roots will not change color even after the second or third application of water. This lack of response to water is because the roots have become so dry that they are repelling rather than absorbing water. They are behaving like a cork in a wine bottle. The grower must exert special effort to re-saturate the roots. Often this will require 4 or 5 waterings to the point of run off spaced 15 minutes apart. Once the roots have been changed to the healthy overall green, normal applications of water should bring them around in future.

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. In April, 15-5-15 can be applied to most genera at the rate of 2 tsp. per gal every two weeks. Vandas, ascocendas, *Aerides*, *et al* will benefit from a full tablespoon of 15-5-15 weekly during this high energy period. One can also apply high phosphorous 'Bloom Booster' fertilizer once or twice at this time to stimulate them to flower for Mothers' Day or failing that to win those trophies and A.O.S. awards at the Redland International Orchid Festival the next weekend. High phosphorous (we use Millers' *Solugrow* 8-48-12) also stimulates root action and is important in getting all genera off to a good start on the growing season. This is one of the few times that high phosphorus is perhaps beneficial. During the rest of the year it is to be avoided particularly with our alkaline water. Current science recommends fertilizers lower in nitrogen, much lower in phosphorus and higher in potassium, magnesium and calcium. Peter's Excel 15-5-15 is now the standard for year round use.

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 stress. 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 and a miticide such as *Kelthane* might be advised. *Orthene* which is the insecticide of choice for thrips (because of its residual action) is compatible with many miticides. Check with your county agent if in doubt.

April is the classic month to catch up with all the re-potting which you meant to do across the winter. New roots form fast in April; don't rot them off by over-potting or break them off by allowing the plant to wiggle in the pot. Tie them up: tie them down!

April is a month for great moral decisions. When turning on the air conditioner for the first time, consider how much better an orchid grower you would be if you set the thermostat 2 or 3 degrees higher. You will find that you spend more time with your plants when you are accustomed to slightly higher temperatures and it is the master's shadow that makes the plants grow. Besides spending more time enjoying your orchids, when the FPL bill arrives, you can celebrate with some splendid additions to your collection. April is a great month for naturalizing orchids in the garden. Perhaps its time to think of new homes for some of our burgeoning collection.



## Deerfield Beach Orchid Society Annual Social Events

These events may be held on the meeting date or on another day of the week instead of a general meeting.

1. **Feb ?, 2017**                      Orchid Home Ramble. Always a Saturday in addition to our regular meeting.  
Chairpersons: Tammy Hall & Susie Martin
  
2. **Mar ?, 2017**                      DBOS Orchid Auction. Held at the Deerfield Beach Women's Club.  
Chairperson: Vince Dicks
  
3. **Apr 24, 2016**                      Spring Picnic/DBOS Birthday Party. Location: Quiet Waters Park  
Chairpersons: Dennis Pearl & Lisa Krukoski
  
4. **Sept ?, 2016**                      Growers Bus Trip  
Chairperson: Cheryl Babcock and Debbie Dicks
  
5. **Dec ?, 2016**                      Annual meeting/Pot Luck Dinner Our regular Dec. meeting to be held here.  
Chairperson: Debbie Dicks and Cheryl Babcock

Please consider joining a committee to help out the Chairperson.

## Renew Your DBOS Membership for 2016

We thank all of our members for their participation in our meetings, social activities, and continued support of DBOS. We sincerely appreciate your enthusiasm for our monthly speakers and raffle drawings, willingness to bring in your plants for judging so we can all enjoy them, and sharing your love of orchids and best practices with your fellow members.

We are starting our membership drive for 2016. Our dues structure has not increased. Anyone who joins DBOS in October-December 2015 will not have to pay dues for 2016. What a deal!

<u>Renewals</u>		<u>New Members</u>	
Individual	\$20.00 yr.	Individual	\$25.00 yr.
Couples	\$30.00 yr.	Couples	\$35.00 yr.
Jr. Membership	\$ 5.00 yr.	Jr. Membership	\$10.00 yr.

You are encouraged to bring a guest to our meetings or bring a neighbor who can share your love and enthusiasm for these lovely plants and get to know our members and learn more about this "wonderful addiction".

Thank you for another terrific year. Our membership has grown this year, and we welcome all of our new members as well as our longtime supporters. We hope you have enjoyed the year as much as we have and will renew your membership for 2016. We will be collecting 2016 membership dues at the October and November 2015 meetings and the January and February 2016 meetings. Stop at the membership table and pay John or Cheryl. If you plan to mail your dues, please do so by February 19, 2016.

Mail your dues payable to: Cheryl Babcock  
Deerfield Beach Orchid Society  
5532 NW 60th Drive  
Coral Springs, FL 33167

## Please Like Our New Facebook Page



The image shows a screenshot of a Facebook page for the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society. The main header features a large photograph of several orchids in shades of pink and white. Below the header, the page name "Deerfield Beach Orchid Society" is displayed, followed by "Non-Profit Organization". To the left of the main header is a smaller profile picture of a purple orchid. At the bottom of the page, there are navigation tabs for "Timeline", "About", "Photos", "Likes", and "More". On the right side, there are buttons for "Create Call to Action", "Liked" (with a dropdown arrow), and "Message" (with a dropdown arrow).

# Please support our sponsors



*Joseph A. Ortlieb, D.D.S.*  
*Michelle L. Rivera, D.M.D.*

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## Newsletter Ads:

- 1/8 page: \$10 per month or \$100 per year
- 1/4 page: \$13 per month or \$125 per year
- 1/2 page: \$15 per month or \$150 per year
- Full Page: \$25 per month or \$250 per year

# 2016 Orchid Events

## April 23 & 24

### Mounts Botanical Garden Spring Plant Sale

This annual plant sale features over 80 vendors with an amazing assortment of quality plants and goods. Palms, orchids, bamboo, begonias, bromeliads, fruit trees, and many other types of plants will be for sale. This is your opportunity to learn about the plants that grow well in South Florida and it's the best place to find something new for your garden. The American Hibiscus Society, Sunrise-Conrad Chapter & Greater Palm Beach Rose Society will be having their annual show & judging featuring many of the state's best blooms. Plants will be available at their booths. The Palm Beach County Woodturners will be selling a large selection of their beautiful woodturnings.

Mounts Botanical Garden, 559 N. Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL  
Admission: Members Free, Non-Members \$10

## May 7 & 8

### Broward County Plant Affair

The Broward County Plant Affair is hosted by the Plantation Historical Society which raises funds to preserve and present Plantation and South Florida's ongoing historical, educational and cultural resources, focusing on the youth of our community as well as its multi-cultural residents with a museum and diversified outreach programs. Locally grown Florida Friendly Plants, Bromeliads, Orchids, Palms, Ferns, Garden Art & Books, Fruit Trees & Butterfly Plants, Hand made organic soaps.

Plantation Heritage Park, 1100 S. Fig Tree Lane, Plantation, FL 33317  
Admission: \$1.50 per person to enter park

## May 13, 14 & 15

### Redland International Orchid Festival

FREE parking, potting and storage tent, international food court, orchid supplies and informative lectures. Bus tours welcome!

Fruit & Spice Park, 24801 SW 187 Ave., Homestead, FL  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday 9am to 5pm  
Admission: \$10/Day, or \$25/3 Days

## Win FREE Raffle Tickets for You and Your Guest(s)

The chances of you winning a stunning orchid or other enticing item off our monthly raffle table are much greater than your chances of winning the lottery? We all like the opportunity to win a new orchid for our collection so why not bring a guest to our next meeting? Guests are welcome at all of our meetings and events. Your guest(s) will each receive five FREE raffle tickets. After a guest visits the monthly meetings twice and wants to continue attending meetings, we respectfully ask them to become a member and pay the annual dues. If a guest joins in September, October, November or December 2015, this will include their 2016 membership dues as well.

**BONUS:** If your guest joins the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society, you will receive 10 FREE raffle tickets!

## Top Reasons to Join the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

- Monthly Orchid Raffles
- Guest Speakers Monthly
- Monthly Newsletters
- Monthly Drawings
- Annual Show & Sale—Orchid Obsession
- Annual Home Ramble
- Monthly Judging and Awarding of Ribbons to Member's Orchids
- Annual Bus Trip
- Annual Orchid Auction
- Annual Picnic
- Annual Holiday Dinner
- Access to our Orchid Library
- Insightful & Informative Web Page

For further information on how to join the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society (DBOS), please contact Cheryl Babcock or John Williams, DBOS Membership Chairs, at [crbabcock1@netzero.net](mailto:crbabcock1@netzero.net) or call 954-464-8996

**JUST A REMINDER:** Use of the membership roster is limited to the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society, American Orchid Society and affiliated society news dissemination only. Use of the roster for commercial purposes is prohibited and is cause for cancellation of membership for misuse.

# Calendar of Meetings

**Thursday, April 14, 7:30 PM**

**Boca Raton Orchid Society**

Safe Schools Institute -Don Estridge Middle School

1790 NW Spanish River Blvd, Boca Raton, FL.

**Monday, April 11, 7:30 PM**

**Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society, Inc.**

Christ Lutheran Church Parish Hall  
1955 E. Oakland Park Blvd. Ft. Lauderdale, FL

**Tuesday, April 12, 7:30 PM**

**Deerfield Beach Orchid Society**

Woman's Club of Deerfield Beach  
911 E. Hillsboro Blvd, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

**Wednesday, April 13, 7:30 PM**

**Delray Beach Orchid Society**

The Adult Recreation Center in Veterans Park  
802 NE First Street, Delray Beach, FL.

## 2015 Committee Positions

<b>AOS Representative</b>	<b>Vince Dicks</b>
<b>Events</b>	<b>Cheryl Babcock Debbie Dicks</b>
<b>Librarian</b>	<b>DBOS Officers/ Board of Directors</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Cheryl Babcock John Williams</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Lisa Krukoski</b>
<b>Nominating</b>	<b>DBOS Officers/ Board of Directors</b>
<b>Plant Judging</b>	<b>John Budree</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Cheryl Babcock</b>
<b>Raffle Table</b>	<b>Dennis Pearl Jesus Hill</b>
<b>Refreshments</b>	<b>Mary Pritchard Dennis Pearl Millicent Hammill</b>
<b>Sunshine</b>	<b>Lois Larson</b>
<b>Webmaster</b>	<b>Joe Ortlieb</b>

## Sunshine Committee

Did you know that we have a **Sunshine Committee**? Lois Larson is kind enough to send a card to any society member that is ill or in the hospital. If you know of someone that could use a little uplifting card, please contact Lois either by phone 954-782-2314 or email at [loisj2200@yahoo.com](mailto:loisj2200@yahoo.com)