



Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

CATTLEYA CURRENTS

November 2015
Volume 50 Issue 11

President
Vince Dicks
vincedic@att.net

Vice President
Joseph Ortlieb
blondguyny@aol.com

Secretary
Tammy Hall
robtamash@comcast.net

Treasurer
Rosemary Chenery
Rchenery33@gmail.com

Treasurer
Josee LaPointe
joseedobs@outlook.com

3 Year Trustee
John Budree
ramjohn@yahoo.com

3 Year Trustee
Lisa Krukoski
fre2beme1@comcast.net

2 Year Trustee
Cheryl Babcock
crbabcock1@netzero.net

2 Year Trustee
Debbie Dicks
wernparadise@gmail.com

1 Year Trustee
Garfield Gilchrist
nativeserv@msn.com

1 Year Trustee
Lois Larson
loisj2200@yahoo.com

1 Year Trustee
Terry Morkert
Morkert.tm@gmail.com

1 Year Trustee
Dennis Pearl
timelessobjects@aol.com

1 Year Trustee
John Williams
johnwilliamsxx@netzero.net

Hi all!

We would like to welcome Tom Kuligowski as our November speaker. Tom has multiple presentations and I'm not sure which one we will hear but I am sure it will be both entertaining and informative.

Many thanks to Lisa Krukoski and Dennis Pearl for spearheading a wonderful picnic! Great day, great food and great company. What more can you ask for? Oh yeah, free plants!

Just a reminder, this weekend is our annual orchid show so thank you ahead of time to all of our volunteers who are going to make this a spectacular event. Please try to get the word out to as many people as possible so we can make this a profitable weekend for our vendors. Debbie Dicks is still taking money for pre-sale tickets. Also don't forget to bring your plants in for judging as we will have a growers plant table with a \$50.00 prize going to the Grand Champion! Hope to see you all this weekend.

Our Holiday Party is scheduled for December 5th so please let us know if you plan to attend as we need to know how many plants we need to order. All members will be receiving a free plant! We will have a signup sheet at the November meeting or you can call Debbie Dicks at 954-946-4951 to reserve.

Hope to see you all this weekend as well as our meeting on November 10th and this month try to bring several friends.

Vince

October Ribbon Winners

Brassolaeliocattleya Lime Cooler "Krull Smith"	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Aerides lawrenceae	Vince Dicks
Vanda Redland Flame	Adriane Jaffee
Vascostylis Viboon Velvet	Grace Holliday
Brassavola Jiminy Cricket	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Paphiopedilum Deperle — Culture Award/Blue Ribbon	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl



Happy Birthday

Gail Ritchie Nov 10

Tonky Bofill Nov 12

Janice Dunford Nov 18

Jean Valentine Nov 22



REFRESHMENTS

We are always in need of refreshments for our meetings. Refreshment sample ideas are: cookies, fruits, cheese platters, cakes, breads, candies, pastries, nuts or anything else you can think of. You will receive a raffle ticket for every refreshment you bring in. All goodies are greatly appreciated!

Thank you to the following people for providing refreshments for our October meeting!

Dennis Pearl

Cheryl Babcock

And special thanks to Publix for donating refreshments

Please remember to sign the refreshment list so you can be acknowledged!

Speaker of the Month

Tom Kuligowski

Please join us at our November meeting when Tom Kuligowski will be sharing his vast knowledge about orchids with us. Tom has specialized in growing Angraecums since early 2000, however, he makes presentations and lectures extensively on numerous topics. He will enlighten us on “Unusual and Natural Mounts.” He will be discussing the reasons behind mounting, why mount, materials that work best, and showing results he has achieved through his mounting techniques.

Tom has been an orchid hobbyist for over 20 years and has created and cared for three collections throughout that period of time. Each collection has been larger and healthier than the previous one. As any other hobbyist, he firmly believes that you learn from your mistakes. Tom, a professional photographer, has documented every aspect of his collections. Join us to find out how you can create some beautiful new displays for your collection.

Some tips from a Pompano Orchid Grower

As the days get noticeably shorter we might help our plants adjust.

1) This is a good time of year to give your plants some Epsom Salts. For those of you whose outside plants turn reddish as the weather cools, this will help keep them green. It also helps Phals and Cymbidiums to initiate spikes. 1 Tbs per gallon every two weeks for the next two or three months will help. A dose of Bloombooster can also help.

2. Egg shells will help provide calcium for your orchids, and it should help oncidiums to flower. Save your shells, and if you have a mortar and pestle, pulverize and sprinkle right on your oncidiums. Pulverized oyster shells work well also.

3. As we all know, plant growth in general has slowed. Lessen your watering. Some plants do not like water at all during the winter. Those dendrobiums that need a dry and sunny winter should be attended to, as should lyncates, catasetums, cologyne, cycnoches, and the list goes on.

4. Fertilize less as the days grow shorter since growth has slowed. This will help to harden off the growth, and not produce soft green growth which is more easily damaged by winter weather. In other words, begin to winterize your plants.

5. As we all have noticed, our windy weather is beginning to return. Right now our plants, and we, are reveling in the slightly cooler and less humid weather. It won't be long before the drying and cold winds of winter start to have adverse effects. So enjoy the weather, spend time with your plants, and get ready for the onslaught of all the wonderful orchid shows given by our neighboring orchid societies. We South Floridians are lucky.

Highlights From Our October Meeting

Photos courtesy of John Morris



DBOS Holiday Party

It's that time of year that The Holiday Committee started planning our Holiday Meeting/Pot Luck Dinner. This year Our Meeting will be held on Saturday December 5th at 5:30pm-9pm at St Andrews School in the Parish Hall. There is plenty of parking spots at the Hall. Carpool if you wish. Directions from the Women's Club to follow.

The address is:

3900 Jog Rd Boca Raton, Florida 33434

Please RSVP to Cheryl Babcock by November 21st. You can email her at crbabcock1@netzero.net or phone 954-464-8996 Members are free. Guests are \$10 and need to be pre-paid. Please send the pre-payments to Cheryl at 5532 NW 60th Dr., Coral Springs, FL 33067 or you can give it to her at the October or November meetings.

We are asking that you bring a fully cooked and ready-to-eat appetizer, side dish or dessert. Don't forget to bring a serving utensil. Crock Pots are always useful. Please use the Volunteer Spot Website (email to come with instructions) and let us know what you're bringing so we don't have duplicates. The Club will provide a spiral ham, turkey, soda, water, and entertainment. If you want something stronger, it's BYOB (Beer and Wine Only).

Dress Attire: Holiday Party Attire

Doors open at 5:30 SHARP

Regards,

The DBOS Holiday Committee

November in Your Orchid Collection

Dr. Martin Motes

In November, we can no longer afford to be dominated by the illusion, so easy here at the northern edge of the tropics, that summer will never end. Although Indian Summer persists for the whole winter in South Florida, November is the month to prepare our plants for those short sharp blasts of cold which are inevitably coming as each successive cold front pushes the overall temperature a little lower and a little lower. Each day is shorter too. The loss of daylight savings time should awake us to the fact that there are less hours of sunlight to save our plants from the chill of the night. Many genera are already anticipating this sea change and have completed their growths for the season. Some like *Catasetum*, *Cycnoches*, *Calanthe* and the nobile dendrobiums are even beginning to shed their foliage in preparation for the cool, dry season. While the Himalayan *Dendrobium* species of the nobile and *Callista* types, *calanthes*, *cymbidiums* and a few others, actually relish temperatures down to near freezing, and most *cattleyas* and *Oncidium* alliance species and hybrids are not bothered by temperatures in the mid-thirties, the majority of the genera which we grow-- *vandas*, evergreen dendrobiums, *Phalaenopsis* and others-- benefit from being protected from the cold. Now, while the first breaths of cool air remind us that more and stronger cold is in the offing, is the time to start thinking about protecting our plants.

In nature, nearly all the tender tropical epiphytic orchids native to South Florida are found nestled in the bosom of deep hammocks where they are well protected from the wind. This observation leads us to think of protecting our orchids from the north and northwest winds. Creating or utilizing already existing wind breaks to the north and west of our orchids will limit the ability of the wind to steal the warmth out of our plants. The critical factor is not the low temperature that the air reaches but rather the temperature to which the plant tissue is chilled and for how long. This is why limiting the movement of cold air over our plants is essential. In still air, plant tissue (mostly water but with some dissolved salts) retains heat for a long time and is aided by the plants' metabolism. The very goings-on of life generate heat, therefore considerable exposure to still air is needed to chill a plant to the temperature of the surrounding environment. Not so if wind enters the picture. Wind can quickly rob the plant's surfaces of heat, chilling the plants tissue deeper and deeper. When the plant's temperature tolerance is reached, at best growth ceases or worse yet damage ensues. Slowing the cooling process and limiting the hours of exposure to sub-optimal temperature is the best gift we can give our plants for the holidays.

Protecting our tender plants from exposure to wind must be our primary concern in preparing them for winter. Buildings, walls and even thick hedges can be very effective windbreaks slowing or stopping chill air. Choose places in your garden that offer this sort of protection to your orchid plants wherever possible. The geography of Florida plays into the equation as well. Because the Florida peninsula juts decidedly to the southeast (Naples is due south of Jacksonville), protection from the northwest wind is even more crucial than protection from the north wind on the east coast of Florida. Northwest winds are blowing out of the cold heart of the landmass while true north winds have in most locales usually blown over more warm water and less cold land. Regardless of the degree of north, safeguarding our collections from the wind is critical to their healthy maintenance. Not until the air circulating clockwise around the cold high pressure system shifts to the northeast to blow over the warm Gulfstream can we relax our guard.

Orchids that are grown in shade houses, in patios or pool enclosures can be protected by installing plastic film on the north and west walls of the structure. This can be attached with staples or other devices that allow the plastic to be furled in warm weather and only lowered for those few nights when it is needed. Easiest to come by (Home Depot, or any hardware store) and cheapest, is 6mil clear polyethylene (don't use 4mil; it rarely lasts the winter being exposed to Florida's bright ultraviolet light). One hundred feet by ten costs about \$20. Stored in a dark place, this stock will last the average grower several years and be a very small investment that will yield greatly improved orchids. Handled with care in furling and unfurling, 6 mil plastic usually will get the grower through the winter. If unobtrusive, it may be simply left in place till March. White polypropylene, similar to nursery ground cloth, is used by many nurseries for winterizing. More expensive than polyethylene, it is very durable and will last many more years. Some growers have it cut to size, taped and grommited for easy up and down installation and storing. Universal Supply (1-800-432-3009) has it. Given the dimensions and enough lead time they can customize it for you.

Getting our growing area ready for winter is one half of the equation. We must also get the plants themselves ready. Healthy, well-nourished plants withstand cold better as do plants that are harder and not too lushly in growth. Because both light and temperature are lower in November and most orchids have slowed their growth, they need less fertilizer. In cooler weather ammoniacal nitrogen is less available to our plants because it needs the assistance of bacterial action to ease its absorption by the plants. Nitrate nitrogen is more desirable therefore in cooler weather, because it is more quickly and readily absorbed by the orchids. Check the label on your fertilizer and try to choose one with a higher ration of nitrate nitrogen to ammoniacal nitrogen for winter use. The very best source for nitrate nitrogen is potassium nitrate (KNO₃). It has the formula 13-0-44. The lower level of the desirable nitrate form of nitrogen is well suited to the continuing but diminished nutritional needs of our orchids in cool weather. The level of potassium is thought to contribute to the 'hardening' of the plants. Try to obtain the soluble or 'Spray' grade. If only Prills (small beads like tapioca) are available they will need to be dissolved with boiling water, a tedious task.

Potassium nitrate is superlative also because it contains no phosphorus which, in combination with our hard, alkaline water interferes with the plants' absorption of trace elements. Trace element nutrition is especially important to maintain healthy orchids in cool weather: above all, magnesium, the 'major' minor element. The reddening of orchid foliage which is usually attributed to cold is in fact the symptom of magnesium and potassium deficiency. Cold is only the efficient cause of this reddening; the material cause is lack of magnesium. Epsom salts at 1tbs. per gal plus potassium nitrate at the same rate will quickly bring back the green. This regimen can be alternated with a general trace element mixture (follow the package rate) plus potassium nitrate. Indeed, following the recommendations of the Michigan State University study published in the July 2003 issue of *Orchids*, symptoms of magnesium or potassium deficiency might be a warning that we should have been following something closer to this "winter" fertilizer regimen all year. We now recommend alternating applications of 1TBS each of Epsom salts and potassium nitrate with a balance fertilizer such as 20-20-20 or 18-18-18 year round not just in the Fall. Best of all is a 15-5-15 with additional calcium and magnesium. Peters markets one as Excel.

The Epsom salts are as near as your medicine cabinet. The potassium nitrate is more difficult to find but a trip to the nearest Farm supply store is worth the effort. You'll save a bundle on fertilizer and have plenty of potassium nitrate left over to grow the biggest bunch of bananas in the neighborhood.

Highlights From Our Picnic

Photos courtesy of Dennis Pearl



The Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

presents

Orchid Obsession



\$2 OFF

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Good for 2 People

ORCHID SHOW & SALE

Saturday Nov. 7th

10 am — 5 pm

Sunday Nov. 8th

10 am — 5 pm

General Admission \$5

Children Under 12 Free

Emma Lou Olson Civic Center

1801 NE 6th St • Pompano Beach, FL 33060

For More Information

(561) 487-6552

deerfieldorchids@gmail.com

www.deerfieldbeachorchidsociety.org

We are once again having a hobbyist exhibit at Orchid Obsession, and we encourage DBOS members and other orchid hobbyists (no professional growers) to drop off plants for judging between 10:00 am and 6:00 pm on Friday, November 6 at the Emma Lou Olson Convention Center. Plants will be judged on Saturday, November 7 by the AOS judges. You will be able to pick your plant up at 4:30 pm on Sunday, November 8. The grand champion prize winner will receive \$50.00.

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 ?, 2016** Orchid Home Ramble. Always a Saturday in addition to our regular meeting.
Chairpersons: Debbie Dicks & Cheryl Babcock

2. **Mar 8, 2016** DBOS Orchid Auction. Held at the Deerfield Beach Women's Club.
Chairperson: Vince Dicks

3. **Sept ?, 2016** Growers Bus Trip
Chairperson: Cheryl Babcock and Debbie Dicks

4. **Oct. ?, 2016** Fall Picnic/DBOS Birthday Party. Location: Quiet Waters Park
Chairpersons: Dennis Pearl & Lisa Krukoski

5. **Dec 5, 2015** Annual meeting/Pot Luck Dinner Our regular Dec. meeting to be held here.
Chairperson: Debbie Dicks & 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 Facebook page for the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society. The main header features a large photograph of various orchids in shades of pink, purple, and white. Below the header, the page name "Deerfield Beach Orchid Society" is displayed, followed by "Non-Profit Organization". To the right of the name are buttons for "Create Call to Action", "Liked" (with a dropdown arrow), and "Message" (with a dropdown arrow). At the bottom of the page, there are navigation tabs for "Timeline", "About", "Photos", "Likes", and "More" (with a dropdown arrow).

Please support our sponsors



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

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- 1/2 page: \$15 per month or \$150 per year
- Full Page: \$25 per month or \$250 per year

2015/2016 Orchid Events

November 7 & 8

Deerfield Beach Orchid Society “Orchid Obsession” Show & Sale

Thousands of specimens from 10 Florida growers will be for sale ensuring that these fascinating and exotic plants will be appropriate for your own backyard. Our vendors will all mount spectacular table displays to be judged by American Orchid Society (AOS) judges on Saturday, November 7. Several non-orchid vendors will provide orchid supplies including everything you need to grow beautiful orchids, plant benches/stands, and reclaimed old growth cypress wood. Daily lectures will be provided on orchid care.

Emma Lou Olsen Civic Center, 1801 NE 6th St., Pompano Beach, FL33060
 Saturday & Sunday 10am to 5pm
 Admission: \$5.00 Free Parking

December 5 & 6

Bonnett House 9th Annual Orchid, Garden & Gourmet Food Festival

Orchid, Garden & Gourmet Food Festival featuring the 9th Annual Orchid & Exotic Plant Sale. Orchids, Exotics, Tropicals, Herbs, Fruit Trees, Garden Art, Gourmet Food Trucks, Libations, Gardening Lectures, Orchid Displays, Live Music, Green Market and Much More!!

Bonnett House Museum & Gardens,
 Saturday & Sunday 9am to 4pm
 Admission: \$12.00 Members, \$15.00 Non-Members, Children 12 and under Free

January 15—17

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Show and Sale “An Orchid Masquerade”

Beautiful huge vendor exhibits, Local orchid society display tables, Raffles – win orchids! Orchid artwork from local schools, International plant vendors, Potting and growing supplies, American Orchid Society accredited judging, Hospitality table – store plants, get help taking purchases to our car, and Free parking.

War Memorial Auditorium, 800 NE 8th Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL
 Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10am to 6pm
 Admission: \$12

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 2014, this will include their 2015 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 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, November 12, 7:30 PM

Boca Raton Orchid Society

Safe Schools Institute -Don Estridge Middle School

1790 NW Spanish River Blvd, Boca Raton, FL.

Monday, November 9, 7:30 PM

Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society, Inc.

Christ Lutheran Church Parish Hall

1955 E. Oakland Park Blvd. Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Tuesday, November 10, 7:30 PM

Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

Woman's Club of Deerfield Beach

911 E. Hillsboro Blvd, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

Wednesday, November 11, 7:30 PM

Delray Beach Orchid Society

The Adult Recreation Center in Veterans Park

802 NE First Street, Delray Beach, FL.

2015 Committee Positions

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

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