



# Deerfield Beach Orchid Society **CATTLEYA CURRENTS**

June 2012  
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Our Mother's Day Sale went well. We sold all our arrangements. I would like to thank everyone who participated. Thank you Charlene Reiff for chairing this event. For those who didn't participate, you'll have a chance to help at one of our other events this year.

October is our Fall Festival and Birthday celebration. Mary Pritchard is the chairperson for that and could use help. Hopefully we will have our 2nd Annual Motor Coach Trip to growers hosted by Madeline Felton. More information to follow on that event.

In November, for the first time in a long time, Deerfield Beach Orchid Society will be putting on a show at the Pompano Civic Center. Rosemary Chenery is the chairperson and could use your help. It seems that it's always the same people doing all the work. It would be really nice if other members stepped up to help out. These events don't run on their own. It's not fair to put all the work on the same people all the time. Don't just show up to a meeting and listen to the speaker...get involved....Have fun with us outside the meetings!

Right now we are in need of a new membership committee. Our current committee member had to resign for personal reasons.

See you at the meeting...Remember to bring a friend!  
Heidi Feser

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## May Ribbon Winners

Category	Plant	Name
Cattleya Alliance	Brassia Rex 'Waiomao Spotless'	Mary Pritchard
Species	<i>Grammatophyllum scriptum</i>	Susan Kolinsky
Cattleya Alliance	Myrmecolaelia Ruby Ray 'Oscar Kirsch'	Joe Ortlieb
Cattleya Art Shade	Cattleya (syn. Laeliocattleya) Canhamiana	Joe Ortlieb
Cattleya Lavender	Cattleya Irene Holguin 'Spring Glory'	Dennis Pearl



# Happy Birthday

**Ti Pham-Oh June 5**  
**Vicky Edgcomb June 10**  
**Lisa Krukoski June 18**



## 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 **May** meeting!

**Mary Pritchard**  
**Dennis Pearl**  
**Norma Melone**  
**Grace Holliday**  
**Susan Kolinsky**

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



# HAPPY FATHER'S Day!

# Speaker of the Month

Our speaker for the June meeting will be Axel Cahiz with Amazonia Orchids. Axel studied Bio-tech engineering at Clemson University and has been growing orchids for a little more than 30 years. Axel is a second generation orchid grower, with his father starting the business in Venezuela. Amazonia Orchids, Inc. opened its doors in 1992.

Amazonia Orchids own and operate their own lab where they do seedling and cloning of orchids. Amazonia Orchids, Inc. has around 200,000 plants plus the ones in the lab. They specialize in Cattleyas Species and its hybrids and also do some genetic studies on the orchids. One of Axel's plants was awarded with Reserve Grand Champion in 19th WOC in Miami Florida.

His presentation will be on the proper growing of Cattleyas.



## Deerfield Beach Orchid Society Annual Social Events

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

1. **Apr. ??, 2013**                      Orchid Ramble. Always a Saturday in addition to our regular meeting.  
Leaving Women's Club at 9am  
Chairperson: Heidi Feser. Assistant: Madeline Felton
  
2. **Oct. 13, 2012**                      Fall Festival/DBOS Birthday Party. Held in Constitution Park, Deerfield  
Beach Arboretum. Our regular October meeting to be held here.  
Chairperson: Need volunteer
  
3. **TBD**                                      Second Growers Bus Trip  
Chairperson: Madeline Felton
  
4. **Nov 10-11, 2012**                      Fall Show and Sale. To be held at the Civic Center in Pompano Beach.  
Chairpersons: Rosemary Chenery and Stephen Lunsford
  
5. **Dec 8, 2012**                              Annual meeting/Holiday Party. Place to be determined. Our regular Decem-  
ber meeting to be held here.  
Chairperson: Susan Kolinsky

Please consider joining a committee to help out the Chairperson.

## GROWING TIPS

for June

By

Courtney T. Hackney

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

Once again, I find that I have misjudged how quickly my orchids are drying out. The humidity has been low for the past few months with lots of bright sunny days, but it still surprises me how quickly pots dry each year when these conditions persist. This year, the wakeup call occurred when I began to repot cattleyas from a crowded bench. Despite watering earlier that morning, some of the pots were very dry. Clearly, I was not getting water into the interior of the bench. No matter what the time of year, it is important to thoroughly drench your orchids each time you water. The more plants you have, the more difficult this can be.

Many years ago, an old-time commercial grower demonstrated how his growers were instructed to water. It seemed silly at the time, but his method of watering at a sharp angle really does work. When cattleyas are placed on a bench and allowed to grow, their leaves will cover the surface above the pot to maximize light capture. Watering directly onto these plants from above allows water to flow around the pot and not wash through the medium. A good drenching means that the water flows generously through the pot. Watering at an angle can accomplish such a drench and soak the medium. Soaking the medium is necessary if you are going to deliver adequate water to roots.

Some growers have a formula they use to decide when it is time to water, which takes into account temperature, light, air movement and especially humidity.

Watering at night or late afternoon is strongly discouraged in most "how to" books. However, this is what happens in Nature and is practiced by many commercial growers, especially in the tropics. It also works for me here in Florida if I can meet the following criteria. The daily humidity is relatively low, my greenhouse is open with great air movement, and night temperature is above 60 F. I water late afternoon and plants are still wet in the morning when I water again with a dilute dose of fertilizer. As soon as I began the practice this spring my orchids immediately perked up. Once humidity gets high again, usually in May or early June, the rate of drying declines and I begin the normal early morning soaking practice. When humidity is high and air movement low do not water at night.

Obviously, if other media are being used, e.g. sphagnum, it is relatively easy to wet your medium. While it is easy to wet sphagnum, some media that hold water well most of the year may be hard to wet. Media (and soil too) become hydrophobic if they are dry too long under low humidity. Fir bark is vulnerable, especially if a white mold appears on the surface. Once this appears, it becomes almost impossible to adequately wet the bark and repotting is necessary.

My experiments using sphagnum showed me that tightly packing sphagnum in the pot worked best for that medium, at least under my growing conditions. If packed properly, water will actually sit on the surface and only slowly drain through the medium. If you are growing in sphagnum, which is a common medium for pot plants, be sure you flush the pot at least once a month or high levels of salts will accumulate. This may require two passes through the greenhouse or in your sink.

Air conditioning has or will become necessary throughout the South soon. If you grow inside under lights or in a window, you will experience what those of us growing in a greenhouse have been experiencing, low humidity and rapid drying of pots and plants.

If there are spikes with a few flowers left on your phals, consider cutting the spikes off. First bloomed orchids will appreciate this and start their growth cycle earlier if you remove remaining flowers.

You should already be applying fertilizer so that increased light levels can be converted into more roots and leaves by your orchids. Remember, fertilize weakly weekly, using just ¼ the recommended fertilizer concentration. This remains one of the hardest things for most new orchid hobbyists. If you are using Nutricote, also known as Dynamite, no additional fertilizing is necessary, but continue to flush once a month.

# Mother's Day Plant Sale Orchid Arranging



# Please support our sponsors



*Joseph A. Ortlieb, D.D.S.*  
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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

## Membership News!!

**As you all know, when you bring a guest to a meeting the guest will receive 5 raffle tickets for a chance to win an item from our raffle table.**

**Now, if your guest should become a member, you will receive 10 raffle tickets at the next meeting! That is a win-win for everyone involved.**

**So round up your friends and invite them to join us at one of our monthly meetings. We always welcome new members.**



# 2012 Orchid Events

**June 24, 2012**

## **Coalition for Orchid Species Symposium**

Four fantastic speakers will be speaking at this symposium: Jay Phal, publisher of The Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia, Bill Thoms, Renowned orchid grower and AOS judge, Frank Smith, Krull Smith Orchids and AOS judge, and Ivan Portillo, Ecuagenera Orchids, Ecuador. Fairchild Tropic Botanic Garden, in the Garden Room, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 8:00am to 7:00pm

Admission: \$45 for COS member, \$50 for non members

Admission includes lectures, raffles, continental breakfast, buffet lunch

**July 7, 2012**

## **Orchid Care 101 Workshop**

Instructors Tom Wells and Sandi Jones of Broward Orchid Supply will share tips about what orchids need in terms of water, light, fertilizer and temperature. Attendees are encouraged to bring an orchid (up to 6 inches) to be repotted or mounted. Several methods will be demonstrated such as potting and mounting on tree fern, cork bark or grapevine. Orchid supplies will be available for purchase. Mounts Botanical Gardens, 559 North Military Trail, West Palm Beach, FL

10:00am to 1:00pm

Admission: \$25 members, \$35 non-members

**July 13, 2012**

## **Summerfest 2012**

Stelmar Gardens is hosting an orchid sale.

Stelmar Gardens, 19350 SW 232nd Street, Miami, FL

9:00am to 4:00pm

**August 4, 2012**

## **Basic Orchid Culture for South Florida Growing and Orchid Repotting and Mounting**

The lecture 'Basic Orchid Culture for South Florida Growing' will be at 10:00am to 12:00pm and the lecture 'Orchid Repotting and Mounting' will be at 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Flamingo Gardens, 3750 South Flamingo Road, Davie FL

Admission \$18 12yrs and up, \$15 seniors age 65+

**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.

## New Dues for 2012

We thank all our members for their participation in our meetings and their continued support of DBOS!

The dues increase was required by increases to fixed costs to run the Society. We sincerely appreciate our members continued support of the Society.

<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 a wonderful year, and we hope to keep you as a member in our Society.

Mail your dues payable to Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

## Share Your Story...

### Be Part Of The Newsletter

In order to keep the newsletter interesting, I'm suggesting that members share their stories with us. We've had articles from members in the past and everyone loved it! I think that this will be a fun way to learn what other members have to contribute. We've all had our experiences with orchids... Now is the time to share yours with us. All articles can be given to me at a meeting so I can scan it into the newsletter. Or, you can email it to me at

DBOSorchids@gmail.com. It must be in typed form. Pictures are okay. The article:

"Email me your story today!"

## Once, Twice, Three Times A Member

**We always encourage members to bring a guest to our educational monthly meetings. This helps promote and increase our membership. Our speakers cost money. After an individual is a guest more than 2 times, they are no longer considered a guest and need to join the society by paying the Annual Dues. Being a member has so many benefits why would you not want to join after being a guest a few times? See Donna Edwards for New Membership**

# Calendar of Meetings

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

**Boca Raton Orchid Society**

Safe Schools Institute -Don Estridge Middle  
School

1790 NW Spanish River Blvd, Boca Raton, FL.

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

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

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

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

**Deerfield Beach Orchid Society-  
Woman's Club of Deerfield Beach**

911 E. Hillsboro Blvd, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

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

**Delray Beach Orchid Society**

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

## 2012 Committee Positions

1. Membership..... Donna Edwards
2. Programs.....Stephen Lunsford
3. Judging Plant Table.....Don Carpenter/Juan Bofill/Rosemary Chenery
4. Newsletter.....Lisa Krukoski
5. Librarian.....Diana Foulke
6. Meeting Place .....Heidi Feser
7. Sunshine.....Lois Larson
8. Nominating.....Debbie Dicks
9. Publicity.....Rosemary Chenery
10. Plant Table.....Speaker or DBOS
11. Events.....Madeline Felton
12. Refreshments.....Mary Pritchard
13. AOS Representative.....Rosemary Chenery
14. Courtesy .....TBD

## 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)

Deerfield Beach Orchid Society  
P.O. Box 732  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33443

*Deerfield Beach Orchid Society, founded in 1965, is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. The purpose of our society is to stimulate interest, provide education and enable the exchange of information among those interested in the culture of orchids in all of its aspects. We are affiliated with the American Orchid Society.*

**Deerfield Beach Orchid Society**

We meet once a month (except December when we have our Annual Meeting at another location) on the second Tuesday of the month. Our meetings are held at the Deerfield Beach Woman's Center, located at 910 E. Hillsboro Blvd. The building is located 2 miles east of I-95, on the south side of Hillsboro Blvd. Meetings start promptly at 7:30 pm.

Each meeting consists of a educational program about orchids, refreshments provided by the members, ribbon judging of member's plants, a raffle table of orchids and orchid sales either by the speaker or members.

The general public is invited to attend.

**INVITE A FRIEND!**