



Deerfield Beach Orchid Society **CATTLEYA CURRENTS**

January 2013
Volume 48 Issue 1

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Happy New Year to all you orchid lovers!

I certainly hope you all had a happy, healthy and joyous holiday season with your friends and families. There may be some sniffles around, but all in all we in South Florida can be thankful for our lovely climate and the lack of storms bearing ominous names and winds.

Our speaker this month is Paul Storm, a national expert when it come to Schomburkias, or whatever the taxonomists have decided to disguise them as for the next few years. Regardless, these elegant plants bear long spikes (some to six feet) and have been cross bred with CATTLEYA to provide shorter spikes with many blooms on one head, a must for your collection.

Paul and his wife Mary give an entertaining and informative talk, and I'm sure the raffle table will be outstanding.

A huge THANKS to Sue Kolinski and her helpers for a great holiday party at Brooks. The orchid bingo was great fun, even though Dennis Pearl managed to corner two gifts.

I need to remind you to **RENEW YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AT THE JANUARY MEETING**. We don't want to leave anyone out of the 2013 roster. Paying in a timely manner will facilitate having it published in late March.

The board plans on another show this November, and hopes to have the first planning meeting in early Feb. We have organized the volunteer activities into small groups, so that many of you will be able to help a little to make our second show a HUGE success.

See you next Tuesday Jan 8 with a friend!

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Speaker of the Month

Paul and Mary Storm are hobbyists who have a passion for anything "SCHOMBO" and their nursery in Sarasota, Florida holds what is believed to be the largest collection of Schombo/Laelia and Myrmecophila species and hybrids anywhere.

Paul was a featured presenter at the Mid-America Winter Orchid Conference in Ohio a few years ago, as well as at the Symposium on Orchid Species sponsored by the Coalition on Species at Fairchild Gardens in Miami. Recently Paul and Mary presented at the Merrit Huntington Symposium in Virginia, and the Orchid Extravaganza in Aruba/Curacao, as well as a tour of six major Orchid Societies in Texas, and they have just returned from the Atlanta Orchid Society.

Paul is the botanical author of several RHS accepted nothogenera and the RHS Registrar has recently created Stormara and Paulstormara as new orchid genera. In addition a few orchid nurseries and hybridizers have registered schombo-hybrids after Paul in honor of Meke Aloha's "Schombo-Mission". Meke Aloha's programs have been enjoyed in many states in the U.S. and the District of Columbia as well as in the Bahamas, Jamaica, and Aruba. Often comments on their programs include phrases like "fantastic program", "best program our OS has ever hosted", and a "hit and a hoot" - whatever that means??! – many societies continue to invite them back on a repeat basis.

Paul and Mary look forward to returning to the Deerfield Beach Orchid Society with 'SCHOMBO-SEX 102 and in reuniting with old friends and acquiring new ones, as well as spreading schombo-love and schombo-fever though-out the DBOS. Although they will be selling Schom species and hybrids at the meeting pre-orders may be arranged by viewing their web-site mekealohaorchids.com. They are not equipped to process credit card orders so please be prepared with cash or a checkbook - you never know— schoms are contagious (SCHOMBO-FEVER!) – get it? - and don't forget to bring the signed permission of your 'significant other' so that Paul and Mary can openly discuss "SCHOMBO-SEX" !! J

Happy Birthday

Dee Glover Jan 5

Robert Hafley Jan 5

Michael Edgcomb Jan 9

Allen Cogar Jan 11

Jane Maechtle Jan 12

Keely Feser Jan 25

AOS Awards at the Deerfield Beach Orchid Show

Rsc. Ashlee Harry 'Krull-Smith' (Carolina Splendor x Memoria Susan Hawkins) was awarded an AM of 82 points for Krull-Smith

Den. Paskal Kuning 'Sheldon's Delight' (Mary Mak x Yong Kok Wah) was awarded an AM of 81 points for Carmela Orchids

V. Pamela Greer 'Evelyn's Shadow' (Manuel Torres x tessellata) was awarded an AM of 84 points for Motes Orchids

While scanning the **Members Only** portion of the American Orchid Society web site, I discovered a link to these amazing videos of orchids as they mature and flower.

Click on **Orchid Videos** in the list on the left of the page.

<http://www.healingorchids.com/livingtreeorchidvideos.html>

I encourage you to become a member of the AOS for just \$65 a year.

Join today and begin receiving a wealth of membership benefits including:

- TWELVE issues of award-winning ORCHIDS magazine
- Access to reliable on-line orchid information and features available only to our members at www.aos.org
- Receive the annual Orchid Source Directory detailing orchid suppliers worldwide
- Free and discounted admission to [more than 200 botanical gardens and arboreta](#)

10% discount on purchases on-line at www.aos.org including discount on back issues of ORCHIDS magazine and on American Orchid Society published books

Rosemary Chenery

AOS representative

DBOS Annual Meeting and Holiday Party 2012



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: Needed Assistant: Needed

2. **Oct. ??, 2013** Fall Festival/DBOS Birthday Party. Held in Constitution Park, Deerfield
Beach Arboretum.
Chairperson: Needed

3. **Nov ??, 2013** Second Growers Bus Trip
Chairperson: Madeline Felton

4. **Nov ??, 2013** Fall Show and Sale. To be held at the Civic Center in Pompano Beach.
Saturday & Sunday Chairpersons: Rosemary Chenery

5. **Dec ??, 2013** Annual meeting/Holiday Party. Brooks Restaurant, Deerfield Beach. Our
regular December meeting to be held here.
Chairperson: Needed

Please consider joining a committee to help out the Chairperson.

Growing Tips for January

By

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Given the popularity of orchids, it is hard to believe that one of the biggest issues for orchid hobbyists today is obtaining media. Most of the difficulties I have had the past few years relate to poor quality media or to the unavailability of some previously popular media. Florida's warm temperatures pose problems for organic media and Aliflor and lava rock have proven to be ideal both for the climate and for my lack of interest in repotting. Aliflor is no longer available and I haven't found a substitute with the same qualities. Several friends have suggested various plastic products that shed water. Stalite is another product that has been suggested, but it does not come in a large size as its intended purpose is as a light rock to mix with cement. If nothing new is found before repotting begins in April, one of these products may be the solution.

One would expect that the use of sphagnum by the pot plant trade would mean that there would be a good supply of that medium. However, the quality has become so poor that finding good sphagnum has become difficult. The last bale of Chilean sphagnum looked fine, but disintegrated within six months while the previous year's sphagnum remained relatively intact on the same bench. Finally, I found a supplier for New Zealand sphagnum. It was three times the cost, but is clearly much higher quality. There is even better New Zealand sphagnum available if you are looking for the longest, freshest strands. If you are uncertain how to tell quality of sphagnum there are several things to look for. It should consist of strands of moss that are at least 6" long. If there are lots of tips or broken pieces you likely have poor quality material best used for garden plants. Another technique is to just soak it for 24 hrs and then pull strands from both ends. Leave the material moist and test it each week the same way. The poor material I used offered no resistance after a month, however, New Zealand sphagnum remained strong.

Several commercial growers told me that they could not afford the high quality sphagnum and had switched to a mixture of charcoal and large sponge rock, which is a soil aerator. Plants I have had in this mixture are doing well after a year, but I have some issues with using charcoal derived from cutting and burning rain forest trees.

What is the ideal medium? A product that was inexpensive, decomposed slowly, if at all, and did not leach salts or produce extreme acidity or alkalinity in the pot would be nice. Ideally, it would be light, so that shipping would be less expensive and be useful in the garden when discarded. Where are the entrepreneurs when you really need?

The first incident of rot showed up last month on phal leaves. This is a common occurrence each year on new phals and even some newly purchased cattleya seedlings. Orchids grown under high nutrient conditions are prone to this soft rot, easily identified because affected tissues look watery. Such rots spread quickly and must be treated before reaching the meristem in the crown, which can kill the whole plant. Remove the infected area and be sure to cut well inside the healthy living tissue, to be sure the rot is removed. Put some cinnamon powder on the cut. After such an infection, I also spray the orchid and surrounding plants with hydrogen peroxide each time after I water to be sure there are no spores germinating. I do this for a couple of weeks after treating an active rot infection.

Please support our sponsors



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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.

2013 Orchid Events

January 18-20, 2013

Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society show 'Orchid Affair'

War Memorial Auditorium, 800 NE 8th St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Orchid supplies, jewelry and accessories, international orchid growers, raffles, AOS judging
10am to 6pm all days

Admission: \$10 at door, \$8 with coupon

January 26 & 27, 2013

Tamiami International Orchid Festival

Dade Count Fair Expo Center - Fuchs Pavillion

10901 Coral Way (S.W. 24th st), Miami, FL

Fifty National and International orchid growers, free classes and lectures

10:00am to 8:00pm Saturday, 10:00am to 6:00pm Sunday

Admission: \$9 cash only, Children under 12 free

March 8-10, 2013

Fairchild International Orchid Festival

Fairchild Tropic Botanic Gardens

10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL

Over 50 vendors, garden workshops, walking tours, food and entertainment

9:30am to 4:30pm all days

Admission: Free for members and children 5 and under, \$25 non-member adults,

\$18 seniors 65 and up, \$12 children 6 to 17.

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 2013

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, January 10, 7:30 PM

Boca Raton Orchid Society

Safe Schools Institute -Don Estridge Middle School

1790 NW Spanish River Blvd, Boca Raton, FL.

Monday, January 14 7:30 PM

Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society, Inc.

Christ Lutheran Church Parish Hall

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

Tuesday, January 8, 7:30 PM

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

911 E. Hillsboro Blvd, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

Wednesday, January 9, 7:30 PM

Delray Beach Orchid Society

The Adult Recreation Center in Veterans Park

802 NE First Street, Delray Beach, FL.

2013 Committee Positions

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

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

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!