



# Deerfield Beach Orchid Society **CATTLEYA CURRENTS**

July 2016  
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Greetings everyone!

Hope you all had a happy and safe 4th of July weekend. We have a couple of exciting speakers coming up over the next several months. Bill Thoms starts things off at the July 12th meeting. This may be the most entertaining program on the orchid circuit. Not only is this a fascinating and educational program but Bill is quite the comedian as well, so its a laugh as you learn situation. Be sure to catch this one if you can! Following that up in August will be Thanh Nguyen of Springwater Orchids. Thanh is mainstay of our annual Orchid Obsession Show in November and a longtime friend of DBOS as well.

As to the last information I had on the September Bus Trip to the Homestead/Redland area, there were only 3 seats still available. If you are interested see Debbie Dicks at the upcoming meeting or give her a call @ 954-946-4951. Remember that this is a first come, first served situation so to ensure a seat I would suggest a quick response on this matter.

That's all I have for now so I really hope you have a chance to attend the July meeting and as always, bring a friend!

Vince

## June Ribbon Winners

Oncidium "Dancing Lady"	Stephanie Morkert
Laeliocattleya Canhamiana	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Stellamizutaara Florida Sunset	Betty Robbins
Aerides houletiana	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Ascocenda Bigness	Adrienne Jaffe
Yamadara Queen Adelia	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Renantanda Azimah	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Brassolaeliocattleya Haw Yuan Beauty "Hong" AM/AOS	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Aerides houletiana	Adrienne Jaffe
Encyclia tampensis (Culture Ribbon)	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl

**Welcome New Members!!**

**Howard Gattegno  
Sherri Hoffman**

# *Happy Birthday*

Lois Larson—July 1

Donna Edwards—July 4

Bill Scott—July 4

Linwood Pittman—July 7

Tammy Hall—July 9

Judy Leslie—July 9

Ron Franz—July 11

Doug Dicks—July 13

Karen Meiselman—July 14

Ron Treshan—July 17

Robert Kristiansen—July 23

Gwen Collier—July 25

Joanie Gaglio—July 27

Kay McGinn—July 30

Adrienne Jaffee—July 31



## **Upcoming Speakers**

**August — Thahn Nguyen**

**September — Ken & Judy Russ**

# Highlights From Our June Meeting

Photos courtesy of John Morris



## **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.**

## July in Your Orchid Collection

Dr. Martin Motes

Although it mostly passes unnoticed to millions locked in their air-conditioned bubbles, July in South Florida is quite different from June. While the pattern of afternoon showers built from the moisture of the morning's sea breeze persists in July, the thunder-storms are sharper and shorter. The clouds linger less and the foliage dries more quickly. Less quantity of rain falls in July than in June and periods of several days typically pass without a drop. This is good news for orchid growers. July (and August) allow orchidists to focus on the first essential of orchid growing, drying the plant out.

Frequently, neophyte growers ask "What if I go away for several weeks in the summer and there is no one to water the plants?" The response is "That's wonderful". Experienced growers use the break in the rainfall during July and August to dry their plants "hard". Depriving orchids of water for several days until they and the media or baskets they grow in are bone dry is essential to good orchid culture. By drying the plants hard, one deals a severe blow to orchids natural enemy, fungus. Orchids have evolved to withstand drought because fungus can not. During severe drought fungus' only defense is to cease all growth and retreat into a spore stage. Hopefully (and with good cultural management) these pathogens will not be aroused from this slumber until the first drizzle of September sets in, allowing our plants two months to mature and harden their growth making them less vulnerable to the September conditions which give some advantage again to the fungi.

Careful watering and judicious drying will do more than any other practice to ensure healthy plants. Drought is the orchid plants' armor against disease. Be sure that your plants dry as completely as the weather of July permits. Nonetheless, as our plants are in full growth they need adequate water in July therefore after a hard drying, orchid plants need a thorough re-hydration. If the next rain fall is insufficient to saturate pot, roots and media, the grower should add to the natural moisture until he is sure both roots and media are saturated, using two or three applications of water spaced a few minutes apart. When the plants stop dripping is the time to apply the next dose of water. Don't stop watering until the "heft" of the pot tells you that it is holding as much water as it can. More typically in July, orchidists should use these opportunities when more moisture is required to substitute fertilizer for water and saturate the roots and the media in the same thorough manner. In July typically think of fertilizing rather than watering. Weekly application of a commonly available balanced fertilizer (20-20-20 or 18-18-18) at two teaspoons per gal. will supply the nutrients that our plants require in this period of lush growth. This balanced formula should be alternated every other week with potassium nitrate and Epsom salts (one tablespoon each) to supply the extra magnesium and potassium we now know are plants need on a regular basis. Even better (although not so readily available) lower phosphorus fertilizers containing extra magnesium and calcium with a formula like Peter's Excel (15-5-15) have been shown to be the precise fertilizer our plants need. This formula is recommended year round. Hopefully such orchid specific fertilizers will become more widely available. Lowering the phosphorus intake of our plants is particularly important in South Florida because of our alkaline water. Always apply fertilizer in the same way as water, in two to three doses spaced a few minutes apart. Apply the fertilizer to the point of "run off" IE. when the solution starts to fall off the plants; stop and move on to the next plant. Repeat the application a few minutes later when the plants stop dripping. In July more than ever, never, never follow the frequently heard and disastrously bad advice of watering before fertilizing. Always substitute fertilizer for water: now and at every season. Roots saturated with water cannot absorb fertilizer but the prolonged wetness can rot your plants. Don't give fungus the upper hand by wetting the plant's foliage and roots more often or longer than necessary. Careful watering is especially important throughout the rainy season.

The wise orchidist will have long since finished all of his potting of sympodials and the top working of his vandas but for the rest of us this is the eleventh hour. Autumn is closer than we think and vandas will need at least three months to settle in to their new baskets or pots before the first chill of October tickles their root tips. Unless you can protect them thoroughly from cold, Vanda top cuttings and keikies should not be made after the end of July. If you do take cuttings remember the "3 root rule". Count down from the crown and make the cutting beneath the third or fourth root. Keep as many leaves as possible on the stump and you will be rewarded with a greater abundance of offshoots. Always slip the sterile knife or shears down between the stem and the leaves and then cut transversely to save as many leaves as possible. Be sure to anchor the cutting firmly in its new lodging. Tie them up and tie them down! There is no time for mistakes in July.

Thrips are much less of a problem in July as the rain tends to wash them away and doubtless there is an abundance of other lush fodder for them elsewhere in our yards. They can reappear in a prolonged patch of dryness, so if you need to think of watering in July it may be dry enough to worry about thrips. A prophylactic spraying for thrips in July will also put a damper on scale crawlers. If a second spraying with soap follows the first by seven to 10 days, the population of mites will be scotched as well.

# Speaker of the Month

## Bill Thoms

Bill Thoms is an internationally recognized speaker, orchid hunter, breeder and grower extraordinaire!

He will be presenting a talk on *Bulbophyllums* (the largest genus in the orchid world!) This program covers everything you need to know to grow and bloom these fascinating plants, including super pictures of easy-to-grow species and the latest hybrids.

Be prepared to learn more about this fascinating group of plants than you ever dreamed! Bill Thoms, and his wife, Doris Dukes, have been growing orchids around Central Florida for more than 45 years and have received almost every award granted by the AOS as well as more Awards for Culture than anyone else in the world, (104 in over 40 genera, including 48 in the *Bulbophyllum* alliance capped off with a 97 pt. Certificate of Cultural Excellence for *Bulb. Sue Blackmore*). Thoms is the only person to receive Awards of Quality for *Bulbophyllum* hybrids. Many of his crosses are winning awards around the country. The AOS has recently added a yearly award named for him for the best *Bulbophyllum* exhibited.

His talks are spiced with funny stories and funny associations, so whether you grow thousands of orchids, only a few, or none at all, you will have a wonderfully entertaining time and be able to grow anything better. Many of the most important requirements for growing world-class plants are made easy to understand and remember. Don't miss this great opportunity to learn how to grow these fascinating plants and to hear one of the most knowledgeable, interesting and funny speakers in the orchid world.

His book, *Bulbophyllums; the Incomplete Guide, From A to WHY?* will be available for purchase (\$44.95, but discounted for attendees), and he will sign them for free!!

## 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. **Mar ?, 2017**                      Orchid Home Ramble. Always a Saturday in addition to our regular meeting.  
Chairpersons: Tammy Hall & Jesus Hill
  
2. **Mar ?, 2017**                      DBOS Orchid Auction. Held at the Deerfield Beach Women's Club.  
Chairperson: Vince Dicks
  
3. **Apr ?, 2017**                      Spring Picnic/DBOS Birthday Party. Location: Quiet Waters Park  
Chairpersons: Dennis Pearl, Lisa Krukoski & Jesus Hill
  
4. **Sept 24, 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 Facebook Page



The image shows 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 organization's name "Deerfield Beach Orchid Society" and "Non-Profit Organization" are displayed. To the left of the main image 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

## Mounts Botanical Garden—Orchid Trilogy

### July 9

#### Orchid Basics-6 Most Common Orchids in South Florida

Speaker: Sandi Jones, Broward Orchid Supply and Bonnet House Museum & Gardens

Newcomers to orchids will learn how to choose the correct orchids for their growing area and what they need to grow and flower beautifully. Jones will demonstrate basic repotting and choosing the correct container and materials. (Note: Growing supplies will be available for purchase at the class.)

Mounts Auditorium, 10am to 1pm

### Saturday, July 16

#### Advanced Orchid Repotting & Mounting

Speaker: Sandi Jones, Broward Orchid Supply and Bonnet House Museum & Gardens

Sandi Jones will demonstrate repotting of an overgrown orchid, and mounting orchids on items such as tree fern and cork bark. She will address common questions like what type of potting media to use, what orchids are best for mounting, and when to use fertilizers, fungicides and pesticides.

Mounts Auditorium, 10am to 1pm

### Saturday, July 23

#### Prevention & Diagnosis of Orchid Pest and Disease

Speaker: Sandi Jones, Broward Orchid Supply and Bonnet House Museum & Gardens

As a fellow hobbyist who owns about 400 orchids, Jones understands how hard it can be to find necessary products for growing healthy, vigorous orchids. She'll discuss how to diagnose orchid pests and diseases from bacterial and fungal rots to insects, such as thrips, scale and spider mites. Attendees will learn to identify the culprits, what products get rid of them, and how to prevent them from returning. (Note: Orchids may be brought in for diagnosis, but they must be placed in plastic bags to prevent contaminating other plants.)

Mounts Exhibit Hall A, 10am to 1pm

Price for all three classes: \$75 for members, \$105 for non-members

Or \$30 a class for members and \$40 a class for non-members

## 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, July 14, 7:30 PM**

**Boca Raton Orchid Society**

Safe Schools Institute -Don Estridge Middle School

1790 NW Spanish River Blvd, Boca Raton, FL.

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

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

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

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

**Deerfield Beach Orchid Society**

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

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

**Delray Beach Orchid Society**

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

## 2016 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)