



Deerfield Beach Orchid Society **CATTLEYA CURRENTS**

June 2016
Volume 51 Issue 6

President
Vince Dicks
vincedic@att.net

Vice President
Joseph Ortlieb
blondguyny@aol.com

Secretary
Tammy Hall
robtamash@comcast.net

Treasurer
Josee LaPointe
joseedbos@outlook.com

3 Year Trustee
Dennis Pearl
timelessobjects@aol.com

3 Year Trustee
Cheryl Babcock
crbabcock1@netzero.net

2 Year Trustee
Lisa Krukoski
fre2beme1@comcast.net

2 Year Trustee
Debbie Dicks
wernparadise@gmail.com

1 Year Trustee
John Budree
ramnjohn@yahoo.com

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

1 Year Trustee
Jesus Hill
jesushill@comcast.net

Hi all!

I believe summer is upon us. Heat, humidity and plenty of rain on tap for the next several months. To help you combat all that summer has offer to destroy your plants and brush up on your repotting and mounting techniques please join us at the June 14th meeting for our annual workshop.

This is a chance to get up out of your seats to get some up close and personal demonstrations in three different areas of orchid culture. We will have stations for plant care: pest and diseases along with repotting and mounting. Feel free to bring any plants and materials that you may need help with. We do ask that if you have questions about disease to please bag your plants or leaves in a zip lock bag to prevent the possible spread to other healthy plants. This is always a fun evening as it allows everyone to roam about with far less structure than our "normal" meetings.

For those of you who have not signed up for the September Bus Trip, Debbie Dicks will be available to get you registered. We accept cash, check, or credit cards as forms of payment. Remember this is a first come, first served event!

We will be having show and tell, raffle table and refreshments as usual so bring in your beauties for display. Hope to see you then and as always, bring a friend.

Vince

May Ribbon Winners

Paphiopedilum Honey	Claudia Barrington
Encyclia Boricana (tampensis x alata)	Joe Ortlieb /Dennis Pearl
Paphiopedilum Chiu-Hua Dancer Springwater	Grace Holliday
Phalaenopsis Bonica	Susan Kolinsky
Rhynchorides	Grace Holliday
Vanda Crown Fox Red Gem "Mardi Gras	Adrienne Jaffe
Chiloschista viridiflava	Marlene
Encyclical incumbens	Joe Ortlieb/ Dennis Pearl
Cattleya intermedia var. orlata	Joe Ortlieb/ Dennis Pearl
Ascocentrum ampullaceum	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Cattoniphila Jamaican Fire	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Ascocentrum miniatum	Joe Ortlieb/Dennis Pearl
Ascocenda Karen Armstrong	Adrienne Jaffe
Grammatophyllum scriptum x Grammatophyllum measuresianum	Sue Zimmer

Happy Birthday

Teri Chong - June 3

Ti Pham-Oh - June 5

Trinh Pham - June 6

Susie Martin - June 7

Judy Minott - June 12

Cindy Dahl - June 15

Lisa Krukoski - June 18

Claudia Barrington - June 19

John Budree - June 25

Patti Resso - June 26



Welcome New Members!!

Lisa Ray

Ellen Rumble

Sue Zimmer

Steve & Debbie Popkin

Highlights From Our May 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.

Monthly Meeting	1 Point
Picnic	1 Point
Home Ramble	1 Point
Bus Trip	1 Point
Volunteer at Show	2 Points

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.**

June in Your Orchid Collection

Dr. Martin Motes

June is the most dramatically tropical month in South Florida. As the southeast Trade Winds blow cool moist air off the Gulf Stream daily, as surely the heating effect of the center of the peninsula percolates up massive thunder heads. The increased cloud cover drawing a veil across the afternoon sun provides much cooling relief for our plants late in the day. Because of this additional cloud cover, our plants are less stressed than in the brightest of May sunshine. The increased humidity makes June feel hotter to us, but this humidity brings blessed balm to our plants from the unrelentingly dry heat of late spring. The shading clouds are also the harbinger of the almost daily rains that arrive like clockwork with the thunderstorms that re-circulate the moisture laden air back toward the ocean in the afternoon. These showers can drop the temperature 10-12 degrees in almost no time, again bring our plants relief when they need it most in the peak heat of the day. In June, such soaking rains that can sometimes be an inch or more an hour, are the norm rather than the exception. For orchids grown outside in South Florida this month, how to dry them out becomes more the question than how or when to water them. For most sympodial genera (cattleyas, dendrobiums, oncidiums, etc.) the natural rainfall of June is sufficient. Only in those rare once or twice times during June when no rain falls for nearly a week is it necessary to think of watering sympodial orchids in June. Even then it usually is a thought that can be dismissed. A thorough, "hard" drying in this first month of the rainy season is usually of much more overall value to sympodial orchids than the slight extra push of additional water. Harder plants that have not been pushed with extra water are much more disease resistant than softer more lushly grown orchids. Vandas and other high water requirement plants may still need periodic watering in June but remember that these types too relish occasional "hard" drying and the heavy often lingering, rains of June are just the nostrum for re-hydrating them even when they have become as dry as the cork in a wine bottle dry. When watering in June, remember at no season is the standard 'water early in the day' rule more relevant; those extra hours of drying are crucial. If your vandas or other orchids really need water, water early in the morning to allow time for them to dry not merely by night but by the time the all too likely afternoon thunderstorms arrive to soak them again. Be sure when you water that the roots of the vandas are saturated until they turn overall dark green. This will still take two applications of water spaced a few minutes apart. June is the archetypical month for careful but totally thorough watering. For those of us committed to sloth, this month is one in which benign neglect becomes a virtue.

With an eye to efficient drying which the season demands, June is an excellent time to review the spacing of our plants. Always give your plants sufficient space to allow for good air circulation to permit rapid drying. Crowded plants stay wetter longer encouraging fungus and bacteria. Scale and mealy bugs also thrive on the soft lush growth generated by overcrowded, overshadowed plants. Mites too love the extra protection from dislodging rain that overgrown plants provide. When looking at the spacing of your plants also allow some extra space for the new growth that will be rapidly developing in the new growing season. Remember your well grown plants will be much larger at the end of the rainy season when the fungus are savagely on the prowl. Plants and trees in your yard also will have grown in the past year and will be growing more in the rains of summer. June is a good time to think of pruning vegetation that is blocking light and air from our orchids. Come the true heart of hurricane season in September you will be glad that you did! Tree pruning alas, slips to a low priority in the face of an approaching storm. Your orchids will be glad right away that you pruned, rewarding you with harder, healthier growth sure to produce yet more lavish blooms in season.

A persistent problem in June is how to apply liquid fertilizer to our plants under these often persistently wet conditions. As all of our orchids are in rapid growth in June they need to be fed, ironically this comes in the face of super abundant moisture. While rain contains minute quantities of nitrogen, heavy persistent rain can in fact strip nutrients from our plants by reversing the normal osmotic process. To a degree this effect of the heavy rains can be positive leaching away any excessive fertilizer salts that have accumulated over the dry season but overall the rain leaves them needier than before. Those of us who have kept our plants well nurtured in May will be ahead of this curve but we all must keep our plants fat and happy at the onset of the heavy growing season. For orchid grown in pots with media, the relatively new, slow release fertilizer widely sold as "Dynamite" (*i.e.*, Nutri-cote) is of especial value at this time of year. Other brands of slow release fertilizer have not proven to be as reliable (neither consistent nor durable) under the hot humid conditions of South Florida. In general, a good rule in June, is that when some opportunities to water present themselves, think rather of applying liquid fertilizer instead of just water. Remember too, the oft repeated bad advice to water your plants before fertilizing them is particularly erroneous in June when over-watering can quickly have negative consequences. In June, as always, replace a watering with an application of the proper concentration of liquid fertilizer. Another frequently sought strategy is to apply fertilizer in conjunction with fungicidal sprays. In general it is not advised to combine balanced fertilizer (20-20-20, 18-18-18) with sprays because with South Florida's highly alkaline water. Any phosphorus in the fertilizer tends to bind up most of the trace elements when conjoined to South Florida ground water. Phosphorus (a very active metal) can also have adverse reactions to the fungicide itself, lessening or abnegating its effectiveness. The solution to this dilemma is to use a fertilizer without phosphorus when a bit of nutrition is desirable. The best source is potassium nitrate 13-0-44 (available at farm supply stores in 50lb. bags) which provides the additional potassium our plants crave. 1 Tbs per gal can be added to the spray solution. Be sure to use "Spray Grade" not "Prilled" which would need to be dissolved in hot water. Thiophanate Methyl, Cleary's 3336 or its combination Banrot or Duosan should be applied prophylactically in June. Keep a sharp eye on your plants for any signs of black rot (*Pythium*). Should soft black or brown spots appear, they should be excised immediately using a sterile knife as this disease can spread quickly in wet conditions. Banrot gives good control but Alliette is the best fungicide to control this disease if it persists.

To minimize the need to apply fungicides, June is an excellent time to review our overall sanitation and cultural conditions in the growing area. It is always important to keep the growing area as clean as possible. In June, cleanliness becomes even more essential because water is the chief vector of most orchid diseases. Dead leaves, roots or other dead orchid tissue frequently harbor diseases that can be loosed upon our orchids by the heavy rains of June. Weeds (dead or alive) can hamper air flow and also harbor disease. This month whatever one can do to enhance air circulation is a plus. Under cover, fans to move air are of great value to Phals and other genera. Hopefully, if we have been doing a good job, our plants will have grown significantly since last year's rainy season. They all may well need more space. Remember that old time orchid growers would say one needs a cat to be a good grower in South Florida because a cat should be able to walk orchid benches without knocking plants down when they are properly spaced.

Snails and slugs will have the whole world as their stage in June and can travel considerable distances to eat our tender orchid shoots. Baits containing metaldehyde are very effective if applied evenly and often. Remember, bait draws the pests; spread it thinly but repeat weekly for thorough control. Snails and slugs always require multiple applications. Overly heavy applications of bait will merely waste in the heavy rain.

Although mites and to a degree thrips are washed away by the heavy rains of June, the warm conditions of summer speed the growth of scale and mealy bugs. At the first sign of either of these pests spray with Soap at 2 oz. per gal or an appropriate insecticide. Oil is no longer an option in the heat of summer. If the soap doesn't prove effective enough, try something stronger but apply with care early in the morning or late in the evening as the high temperatures of mid-day in June can acerbate phytotoxic reactions.

June is a great month for top cutting strap leaf vandas, teretes (papilionanthes) and reed stem epidendrums. Most sympodial orchids are already in growth and unless their media is totally broken down are probably best left undisturbed till their new growths have matured and they have flowered. If you have not gotten your *Phalaenopsis* out of last year's sphagnum moss wait no longer! Phal roots in soggy medium in June is a receipt for "Fails".

For those of us so in love with Florida that we would never think of insulating ourselves with air-conditioning, the rains of June provide pleasant relief from the harsh Mediterranean sun of late spring. As my son Bartholomew at age two so aptly said "Rain sweet as honey". Enjoy! Our orchids do.

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



Please support our sponsors



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

313 S.E. 15th Terrace
Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

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Pager 1-800-925-8707

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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 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, June 9, 7:30 PM

Boca Raton Orchid Society

Safe Schools Institute -Don Estridge Middle School

1790 NW Spanish River Blvd, Boca Raton, FL.

Monday, June 13, 7:30 PM

Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society, Inc.

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

Tuesday, June 14, 7:30 PM

Deerfield Beach Orchid Society

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

Wednesday, June 8, 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	Dennis Pearl Jesus Hill
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