



CLUB NEWS



Ben Oliveros

**January 10, 2018
Monthly SAOS
Meeting**
By Janis Croft

Welcome and Thanks. Bob Schimmel opened the meeting at 7:00 pm sharp with 58 attendees. Carolyn Smith introduced our new members, Steve Hawkins (you right remember him as the Orchid Specialist, he has relocated here) and Joann Davenport and

along with guests. Bob then thanked Dottie Sullivan and Doriana Borrero for bringing in their yummy desserts and Shirley Browning for organizing the refreshment area and reminded all to drop a dollar in the basket while enjoying their treats. Bob next informed all that the Best of Show voting would occur between the Show Table discussion and the presentation. He encouraged all to vote for their favorite orchid.

Club Business. 2018 Membership dues are now due, \$20 for individual and \$30 for family. Bring your check to the next meeting or use the PayPal link on SAOS website to sign up for membership.

There are two January orchid shows: [Tamiami Orchid Show](#) Jan. 12-14 and the [Fort Lauderdale Orchid Show](#) Jan 19-21. Check [SAOS website](#) for details.

Our Membership Veep, Linda Stewart delivered free raffle tickets to the 8 people with birthdays in December and January.

Susan Smith announced that this year's first Keiki meeting will be on Jan. 28 at 1 pm at Sue and Terry Bottom's home. We will have a meet and greet for the new Mentee/Mentor program. Contact Mentoring Coordinator Susan at director1@staugorchidsociety.org if you'd like to attend and haven't signed up.



The new hats (\$15) and T-shirts (\$20) were available at the sales table. Email Sue Bottom (sbottom15@hotmail.com) if you need potting supplies, special quantities or different items and she will



bring them to the next meeting for purchase. Items for sale are: coarse mix, bark, phal mix, and timed release fertilizer and "Purely O".

Show Table Review. Courtney Hackney started the discussion with the hanging plants. A Prosthechea Green Hornet was beautifully mounted and discussion was held on what genus it is currently named as—Encyclia, Epidendrum or Prosthechea. Next was a cute miniature from the Vanda alliance, Tuberculabium quisumbingii, which is a profusely blooming miniature from the Philippine mountains. Next was the pinkish/purple Bardendrum Nanboh Pixy, an intergeneric between Epidendrum and Barkeria.

The Oncidium Twinkle with its many blooms was quite fragrant. Another deep purple flowered example was the Vuylstekeara Pinot Princess 'Scary' whose spray of spidery flowers also have a wonderful scent. While looking at the semi alba Blc. Valley Isle Queen orchid, there was some discussion on Cattleya backbulbs and Courtney stated that you want to leave the bulbs which provides nourishment for the next year's flowers. The more bulbs, the stronger the plant flower production will be. He and Sue have found that Purely Organic is best applied in the spring. A small orchid, the Den. Blue Twinkle, with many inflorescences and numerous flowers growing on old and new growths was stunning. The miniature/small epiphyte, Prosthechea boothiana, requires a close look to see the beautiful flowers. This orchid prefers to be mounted and there was discussion about what materials to use for mounting. Besides the normal cork and cypress, Courtney also suggested Crepe Myrtle, which is common in our area—particularly in the fall when the trees are trimmed, as another long lasting mount. There was one large flowered cattleya with one white and one pink flower. Oftentimes, flowers will change colors as they age and or be a different color if they form at different temperatures. The easy growing Wils. Pacific Panache 'Dorothy Jean' finished out the review with a beautiful orange display. Check out the photos of our show table

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Upcoming Orchid Events

January 2018

- 12-14 Tamiami International Orchid Festival
Dade County Fair Expo Center
- 19-21 Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Show
War Memorial Auditorium
- 28 Keiki Club Get-Together, 1 pm
Meet Your Mentor
Sue and Terry Bottom's Home
6916 Cypress Lake Ct, St Aug 32086

February

- 3 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine
Repotting and Plant Clinic
- 3-4 Venice Area Orchid Society Show
Venice Community Center
- 6 SAOS Meeting, 6:30 pm
Native Orchids of Northeast US
Mark Rose, Orchid Hobbyist
- 9-11 South Carolina Orchid Society Show
Riverbanks Zoo&Botanical Garden
West Columbia, SC
- 10-11 Boca Raton Orchid Society Show
Safe Schools Institute
- 13 JOS Meeting, Encyclias, 7 pm
Marv Ragan, JOS
- 17-18 Port Saint Lucie Orchid Society Show
Port St. Lucie Community Center
- 23-25 Naples Orchid Society Show
Moorings Presbyterian Church
- 25 Keiki Club Get-Together, 1 pm
The Orchid Show Season
Janis Croft and Alan Winer's Home
8311 CR 208, St. Aug 32092

March

- 2-3 Englewood Area Orchid Society Show
Englewood Methodist Church
- 2-4 Martin County Orchid Society Show
Martin County Fairgrounds
- 3 SAOS at Ace Hardware, 9 am til 1 pm
3050 US 1 S in St. Augustine

- 3-4 Tampa Bay Orchid Society Show
Tampa Scottish Rite Masonic Center
- 6 SAOS Meeting, 7 pm
Bulbophyllums
Bill Thoms, Bulbophyllums
- 8-11 Gulf Coast Alliance Orchid Society Show
North Collier Regional Park, Naples
- 9-11 Orchid Society of Coral Gables Show
Fairchild Botanic Garden
- 17-18 Jacksonville Orchid Society Show
Garden Club of Jacksonville
- 24-25 Orchid Society of Highlands County
Bert J. Harris Jr. Ag Center, Sebring

St. Augustine Orchid Society Organization

President	Bob Schimmel schimmelr55@bellsouth.net
Vice President Events	Dianne Batchelder ladydi9907@aol.com
Vice President Membership	Linda Stewart lindstew@hotmail.com
Vice President Programs	Sue Bottom sbottom15@gmail.com
Secretary	Janis Croft croftie1984@gmail.com
Treasurer	Bill Gourley wgourley@bellsouth.net
Directors at Large	Susan Smith 2manysmiths@comcast.net Tom Sullivan tomjs91@gmail.com Suzanne Susko suzsusko@bellsouth.net
Exhibit Committee Chair	Janis Croft croftie1984@gmail.com
Librarian	Penny Halyburton phalyburton@comcast.net
Newsletter Editors Webmasters	Sue and Terry Bottom sbottom15@gmail.com bottom406@gmail.com



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examples at the end of the newsletter and on the SAOS website.

SAOS Program. Courtney introduced the evening's speaker, Ben Oliveros, as "someone who grows orchids as well as he has ever seen and few people hybridize Cattleyas as well either." Ben owns Orchid Eros with a nursery stock of 40,000 plants and his presentation, Hawaiian Grown Orchids, included some of the tricks of the trade as well as showing us the commercial practices that work for and against the normal orchid grower. As an AOS judge, he has learned the importance of quality. Yet as a potted plant grower, he knows the need for floriferousness. Ben brought five plants of a grex he has yet to name. To help our club, he offered them up for auction where we were able to bid on the ownership of the plants as well as the right to name the hybrid cross. Ben will then register the name with the Orchid Registrar at RHS. The winning bid by Chip Brickell will help the St. Augustine Orchid Society continue to bring in great speakers for our meetings. Thanks Chip for the



winning bid and thanks Ben for the great donation!

Ben started by describing the weather in Hawaii as being endless spring. Temperatures are 60-80 degrees year round and the islands have 11 of the established 13 climate zones with elevations ranging from sea level up to 14000 feet. There is a constant breeze from the NE trade winds with the windward sides being lush and tropical while the leeward sides are dry. He is on the east windward side luckily. The humidity is a constant 65-70% windward. There is only 2 hour difference in day length from summer to winter which provides him with multiple flowering times throughout the year, the disadvantage being that plants that flower based on a changing photoperiod may not receive the required stimulus. Despite all of these wonderful conditions, not all Hawaiian growers have the same conditions. Each grower has varying differences and it is important to talk to each grower from whom you might be buying plants.

Hawaii boasts one of the wettest places on earth. Ben has experienced 11" of rain in one hour and 20" in a

day. Waialeale on Kauai averages over 400"/year while Mountain View averages 200"/year. Naturally most growers use rain water for their irrigation systems but must watch the acidity levels due to the sulfur dioxide emissions from the volcanoes. Ben collects his water in an above ground pool and his pH has dropped down as low as 3.2, so he adds baking soda to neutralize the acidity. Ben grows his plants in low cost/low tech shade houses with solid roofs so he can control the water his plants receive. He typically hand waters (6 hours/day/2 days/week) because he likes the process, it gives him time to look at his plants closely and adds much needed aeration to the roots.

Many growers fertilize continually and leach once a month. He uses Cal/Mag with Calcium Nitrate addition in one Dosatron and Pete-Lite (20-10-20) with varying additives, e.g. Epson salts, Kelp (Miller product). He noted that everyone has different mixes and preferences for how they grow. He advised all to strive for a balanced ratio of 3-1-2-2-1 (N-P-K-Ca-Mg). He recommends high nitrate low ammoniacal/urea nitrogen to avoid soft lush growth prone to disease. He uses systemics twice a year and never has an issue with scale.

When buying plants from Hawaiian growers, give your plants time to adjust to your conditions. Water immediately because they have been dried out prior to shipment and then spent time in transit. If they are actively growing, repot right away into your mix of choice. Otherwise, water a little more frequently at first since they are used to so much rain water. When you see the new roots beginning to form, it is time to repot. He keeps his plants in plastic pots and only allows 1" margin around the plant in the pot. Be sure you have enough slots/holes in your pots to provide sufficient airflow around the roots. One of the best Hawaiian growers, Mike Blitz, never has media in his pots for just this reason.

Remember to interview the seller about the conditions they grow in and imitate those at first and then slowly acclimate your plants to your conditions. Inspect and quarantine new arrivals. He suggested reading Bill Rogerson's article (see reference under cattleya culture on our Culture by Genus page) for determining when to repot. And he ended with his mantra, "Throw Away Early, Throw Away Often." Sickly plants attract disease and pests and make great mulch.

Meeting Conclusion. Bob Schimmel announced the Member's Choice Award as the Den. Blue Twinkle grown by Sue Bottom. Susan and Doug Smith orchestrated the raffle. Thanks to all the helpful hands that stayed to reset the tables and chairs and clean up the room.

Thanks to Watson Realty and
Jeanette Smith for the use of their
meeting space at
3505 US 1 South



CLUB NEWS

January 28 Keiki Club

Meet Your Mentor

Our mentoring program is being kicked off this month. Susan Smith, our mentoring coordinator, has been busy pairing up mentees who signed up for the program with mentors that live in relatively close proximity to them. We will have a meet and greet at Sue and Terry's to introduce mentees and mentors so we can begin to get to know each other better. This is a new program that we're introducing this year, so we'll do a lot of talking at the Meet Your Mentor event to understand what each participant wants to get out of the program, and how to integrate it into and improve upon our Keiki Club programs and Ace repotting clinics. If you are interested in more information, feel free to email Mentoring Coordinator [Susan Smith](#).

Where: Sue and Terry Bottom's Home
6916 Cypress Lake Court, St. Augustine 32086

When: January 28, 1 to 3 pm

Show 'em Where You Grow 'em

We are assembling pictures of where our members grow their orchids during the winter months for a 2018 presentation about growing orchids in St. Augustine. Start snapping pictures and [email us](#) with some of your tricks! You might even be asked to talk a little about your winter practices at the monthly meeting when we reveal our members winter orchid care secrets.

American Orchid Society Corner

Upcoming Webinars:

February 6, 8:30-9:30 pm, Everyone Invited

[Greenhouse Chat Orchid, Q&A](#) - Ron McHatton

[Photos of Latest AOS Awards](#)

Jan. Orchids Magazine: [request free issue!](#)

Genus of the Month: *Brassia*

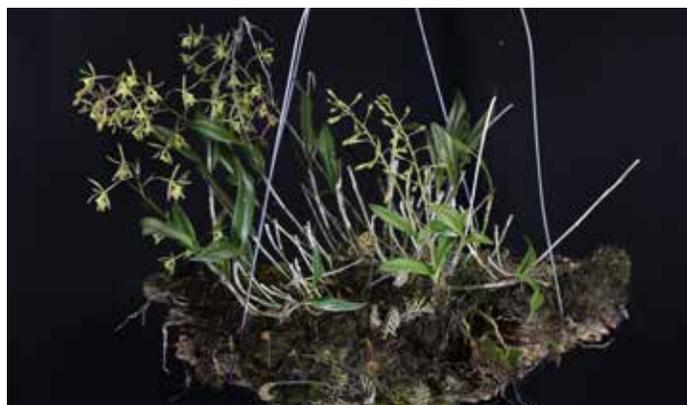
The Genus *Cyrtorchis*

Dendrobium bigibbum, Species and Hybrids

For the Novice: Bud Blast and Flower Blighting

Time to Pay Your 2018 Dues

Dues for 2018 are now due. The bad news is we had to raise the dues by \$5 this year. The good news is we hope you will feel the price of membership is worthwhile when you see our featured speakers in 2018. We will be collecting dues at the January, February and March meetings, after which we will update our roster. Dues are \$20 for an individual and \$30 for a family. You can mail your membership check to: SAOS c/o Bill Gourley, 807 Kalli Creek Lane, St. Augustine, FL 32080. If you prefer to renew your membership online, you can pay using PayPal whether or not you have a PayPal account. The online dues for an individual are \$21 and for a family \$31, which includes the fees PayPal charges.

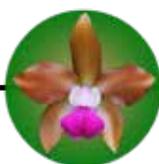


February 6 Monthly SAOS Meeting

Native Orchids of the Eastern United States

Mark Rose will review many of the beautiful and fascinating species one may encounter in the eastern United States. Mark operated Breckenridge Orchids for many years and has produced a myriad of successful hybrids. Mark has a two acre garden at his Boone, N.C. home that is planted with thousands of natives that he has collected from all over the country during the past 40 years. There is something in flower from late February through November, with lots of our native orchids included in the plantings. Members are invited to bring plants for sale at the meeting.

Mark serves as a speaker and consultant on orchid culture and hybridization and, native wildflowers. He currently serves on the Board of Director of the Native Orchid Conference and the North Carolina Native Plant Society. He is the Director of Flannery Fork Botanical Garden in Boone, NC where he manages the gardens that specialize in the native plants of the Eastern United States with a special emphasis on Orchids, Trilliums, Hexastylis, Liliaceae, Hepaticas, and other spring ephemerals.



INSPIRATION



Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Pizzaz' AM/AOS

© Terry Botto



CULTIVATION



Orchid Questions & Answers

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@gmail.com

Q1. I have these rings on a Gongora, as well as two other orchids. It starts with one leaf, I cut it off and later on, other leaves develop the same problem. I thought it might be

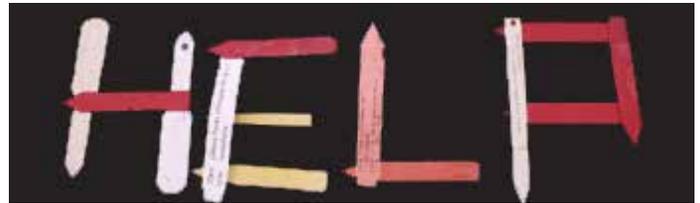
the sun at first but I remember reading that circular patterns are a sign of virus. Should I trash these 3 orchids fast?

A1. I don't think that's a virus, it looks like classic Anthracnose, that is caused by one of the leaf spotting fungi. You should be able to see tiny little dots in the discolored area, those are the spores that spread the disease. You can remove the diseased leaves to a closed container. Fungicides can be sprayed to help prevent spores from settling on leaves and spreading the infection. More air movement and less leaf wetness will help prevent the conditions that favor the disease.



Q2. What is this white stuff all over my lava rock? I am repotting cause so many roots were growing out of the pot on my oncidium.

A2. Quite a mystery! It's not snow mold. That grows on organic media, and this substance is crystalline. You might think salts precipitated out of the water, but then why are the roots so healthy, with none of them burned? Courtney says there are some bacteria that make colonies and use dissolved minerals as an energy source. The white material, possibly calcium carbonate, dissolved when dropped overnight in a solution similar to vinegar. It doesn't seem to impact the health of the plant. Just another of life's little mysteries!



Q3. Someone just gave me this orchid and I can't identify its problem. Can you help identify it and give me some treatment options?



A3. The bottom leaf has soft rot, that leaf should be removed immediately. If the rot travels to the crown it will kill the plant. The upper and lower surfaces of the other leaf looks comprised as well. If the plant has enough other leaves to sustain it, you might consider removing that leaf too. Then get a fresh bottle of hydrogen peroxide, or better yet one of those spray bottles of peroxide that Walgreen's sells, and spray all the above ground portions of the plant, particularly around the crown where the rotting leaf was. If you were just given the orchid, then you don't really know what happened to it before that allowed the rot to get to the plant. You'll just have to keep an eye on it to see if you stopped the rot in time. If you're a cinnamon person, you could dust the crown of the plant and around the cut edges after the peroxide dries. The cinnamon will dessicate that portion of the plant and create a barrier so bacteria can't invade.



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Winter Cold Weather Courtney's Orchid Growing Tips

The good news is that days are getting longer, but the bad news of course, is there are three more months of winter. Given that the average annual temperature is usually just a degree or two above or below the average for all years, and that we had a very warm fall:

it might be very cold during the next three months. Weather extremes are the real challenge for orchid growers. One night below 32°F or above 120°F and the rest of the year does not matter. A heating or cooling system must be able to handle the worst possible condition, otherwise you run the risk of losing your orchid collection.

When does the worst scenario occur? When you are least prepared. For me, it was waking up in the middle of the night and realizing that the house was cold and very dark. The power was out on a record cold night. Of course, gas heaters with electric fans and thermostats were also not working and the greenhouse was already down to 35°F. A kerosene heater and Coleman cooking stove saved the day. Even though the greenhouse temperature was below freezing for 10 minutes or so, no plants died. Why? Fortunately, plants contain lots of water that holds heat, which means that a plant has a certain amount of residual heat.

Orchids are also more tolerant of extremes if they return to normal temperatures quickly and if they are in good health. The morning sun hitting a plant leaf quickly warms the leaf, just as the sun quickly warms your car. Phals should be kept at a minimum 65°F at night in winter. On extremely cold nights my greenhouse may approach 60°F, but there is rarely any direct or indirect damage as long as the daytime temperature gets back to normal quickly. On very cold nights followed by gloomy days where the greenhouse remains at the minimum 65°F, there are often phals that drop buds and bacterial rots appear in the next week or so. These are just some of the sub lethal effects that come when a phal's internal temperature gets too low. Each type of orchid has a minimum temperature below which it stops growing and becomes vulnerable to diseases.

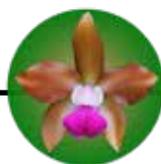
Many greenhouse heaters are equipped with day/night thermostats that allow you to set a different greenhouse

temperature for night and daytime. The change in temperature during the day is also important. While this feature may only be used a few times a winter, it can make a huge difference in the health of your plants.

This time of year when greenhouses are closed is also a time to carefully watch for disease. Besides maintaining the proper temperature, avoiding overly high humidity and maintaining good air movement are critical. Cold plants will condense moisture on both leaves and flowers leading to Botrytis (small brown spots on flowers) and various fungal rots. Humidity levels at 70-80% at night are ideal, but avoiding 100% humidity is critical. It might seem impossible to keep humidity lower than 100% on very cold nights. Gas heaters tend to lower humidity on cold nights because the air burned is replaced by cold air from outside that is typically very low in humidity.

If you use electric heat or if the humidity outside is very high it can be difficult to keep humidity below 100%. Rapid air movement is the only solution. Avoid watering during these periods. Commercial growers often use preemptive spraying, a costly alternative. Good greenhouse hygiene is now more important than ever and cannot be emphasized enough. Remove dead leaves and flowers from plants, benches, and floors. You may even find that spraying Physan on floors and benches will help. On warm days, turn on ventilation fans and exchange air inside the greenhouse as much as possible with fresh air. Most growers that report constant problems with disease fail to follow these basic tenets of good culture.

Note: Dr. Courtney Hackney wrote a monthly column of his orchid growing tips for about 20 years; we are reprinting some you might have missed, this one from January 2002.



CULTIVATION

Orchids Month by Month in 2017

Sue Bottom, sbottom15@gmail.com

Terry is always taking pictures of something, including the greenhouse. Sometimes it's frogs, lizards and snakes and sometimes it's some pest, disease or other problem, but the best pictures are the flowers. Every year he goes through and selects the best picture each month and compiles them into a calendar. This is the retrospective of 2017 in bloom.



January - Blc. Great Hero 'Black Hole'

(Blc. Waikiki Gold x Blc. Love Sound)

Who doesn't love flares? Blc. Great Hero 'Black Hole' has flat flowers and a lipstick pattern. As the flower ages, the color changes. Color variations also can happen depending upon ambient temperatures while the flower is developing.



February - Cl. Grace Dunn 'Chadds Ford' AM/AOS

(Cl. warczewitzii x Cl. rosea)

The first time I ever saw a Clowesia in bloom was at an orchid show in Gainesville, and I went into a swoon. Those delicate pink flowers are long lived and fragrant, and amazingly bloom in midwinter from leafless pseudobulbs. This one has grown up to a ripe old age with many bulbs in one of Joanna Shaw's baskets.



March - Schom. undulata x Lc. Gold Digger

Many of the Schomburgkias are huge vigorous plants that throw off long inflorescences with a cluster of twisty-twirly flowers at the end. Breeding them with cattleyas often results in a more manageable sized plants with somewhat shorter spikes. Schombocatts are very popular and if you have the room for them, go for it!



April - C. walkeriana var. coerulea 'Wenzel Sam'

The fragrance of a walkeriana is sweet and irresistible, reminiscent of rose, lily of the valley and jasmine. This delicious fragrance is imparted to many of its progeny (but not when interbred with Sophronitis!). You tend to get relatively large flowers on smallish plants and lavender, white and coerulea color forms are available.



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May - Blc. Pollyana 'Jennifer's Favorite'
(Blc. Waikiki Gold x C. Brabantiae)

The flower opens up pale and darkens over the next several days into an unusual spotted peach with yellow midribs on the sepals. It has been a reliable bloomer for many years, until this year when I notice the evil color break. I gave Jim Roberts a piece several years ago, maybe I'll be able to replace my virused plant.



July - Lc. Atalanta 'Hawaii'
(C. warszewiczii x Lc. x elegans)

One look at this flower and the hunt was on. A greenish white cluster of flowers on a mostly bifoliate shaped plant. Mom was the alba form of the more pronouncable gigas and Dad was the alba form of the primary hybrid between leopoldii and purpurata. This one should be on your list.



June - L. purpurata var. flammea

I'm no species snob, but I have never met a purpurata that I didn't like. The beautiful pink lipped coerulea form, the red lipped cernua form, the blue lipped werkauseri form, the purple lipped schusteriana form... we could go on. In Brazil they have orchid shows dedicated solely to purpuratas and they recognize over 100 color forms.



August - Stan. King Kong
(Stan. tigrina x Stan. gibbosa)

The first stanhopea I had was a grandiflora, and even though each flower only lasted two or three days, it bloomed nine times that summer. That was it, I needed more. Pot them in baskets with wide spaces so the flowers can find their way through, and then you'll find yourself checking the bottom of the baskets each day... just in case you have to rearrange your schedule to make sure you're home when they open.



CULTIVATION



September - Lc. Spotted Doll x C. guttata alba

Bifoliate cattleyas rank up there in the favorites department, particularly the tall growing types that have spotted clusters of flowers. You just must be diligent to only repot them when you see new roots forming, which unfortunately is often when they're about to flower. Dropping the pot into a larger pot can be the answer to this dilemma.



October – Lc. Indigo Mist 'Cynosure' HCC/AOS
(Lc. Dellensis x Lc. Lorna Dene Whitlow)

What's not to like? Coerulea coloration, check. Flares, check. The bifoliate *Cattleya leopoldii* in the background to encourage clusters of flowers, check. Courtney lusts after this one, so his name is on the back of the tag for the next time it is divided. Interestingly, I have two of these mericlones and the second one is not nearly as vigorous.



November – Hab. Regnieri
(Hab. carnea x Hab. rhodocheila)

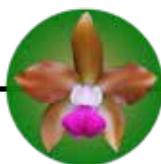
All it took was for that first *Habenaria medusa* to rebloom, and I was hooked. Next step, I had to have the other species, and their hybrids. Finding *habenarias* is a challenge, even at orchid shows. The nice thing is they go dormant during the winter months and can be ignored, just look in on them once a week in late spring when the green starts to emerge.



December – Lc. Fall Drama 'Autumn Flare'
(Lc. Kingstree x Lc. Eau Claire)

I love flared cattleyas, but the blush flowered ones usually leave me cold, except for this one. This came from a collection grown by Mary Hollingshead, a lady who I learned a lot from posthumously when I ended up with some of her plants... the way she staked her orchids, repotted using the over the pot method, grew in tree fern baskets, all things I added to my repertoire.

Clearly I love cattleyas above all other orchids, but don't let that stop you from admiring and growing the other types. We've only just begun!



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Fir Bark vs. Pine Bark from “Growing the Best Phalaenopsis”



Managing the root zone of potted orchids can be one of the most critical aspects to growing a healthy crop... In their natural habitats, most phalaenopsis species are epiphytic plants, meaning that they grow on tree trunks and limbs. Their roots are exposed to air movement and absorb moisture from the humid air, as well as from rains and dews. Because of this, when we grow phalaenopsis in containers filled with an artificial medium for our convenience, we must consider aeration, capillary action, water and nutrient-holding capacities, stability and weight of the medium components, as well as cost and consistency.

Coarse materials are often used to allow for plenty of air movement through the medium. Ground bark from Douglas fir (ed. note: such as the aged Rexius bark) and coastal redwood trees has been used for more than half a century for growing orchids. Although Douglas fir and coastal redwood are host plants for *Phytophthora ramorum*, the fungus that causes sudden oak death disease in California and Oregon, orchids grown in bark have been exempt by USDA from the quarantine list.



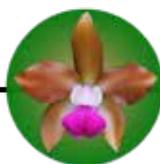
Nearly all commercial orchid growers make their own media. Although most modern orchid media still contain fir bark, one or more of the water-absorptive materials such as sphagnum peat, perlite, sphagnum moss, coconut husk chips and diatomite is mixed with bark for improved plant growth. For example, early research at Texas A&M University showed that plant growth was vastly improved in a medium consisting of 20 percent coarse sphagnum peat and 80 percent fir bark, compared with fir bark alone.

Fresh ground bark does not hold much water, which can be problematic when stressed, partially desiccated, bare-root phalaenopsis are newly planted. When bark starts to hold more water and nutrients after repeated watering and fertilization, it decomposes quickly and ties up some of the nutrients. In fact, research has shown there may be no detectable amount of nitrate-nitrogen in a bark medium. Fir bark particles do not have much capillary action and do not readily transfer moisture from the bottom of the pot toward the surface. A medium of fir bark alone can hold too much water in the lower portion of the pot once it begins to degrade, which can lead to severe root rot and poor plant performance.



The imported aged bark obtained from the Monterey pine (ed. note: *Pinus radiata*, such as the aged Orchiata bark or unaged Kiwi bark), grown in New Zealand for lumber, has been used by an increasing number of orchid growers in the United States. Our preliminary research found that aged Monterey pine bark holds more moisture and nutrients and maintains a higher pH than fir bark, resulting in better plant growth. In addition, this aged pine bark does not decompose as quickly.

Extracted from: Wang, Yin-Tung, Matthew Blanchard, Roberto Lopez, and Erik Runkle. “[Growing the Best Phalaenopsis](#)”; Part 2: Media, Transplanting, Water and Nutrient Requirements” *Orchids* Feb (2007)



IN MEMORY



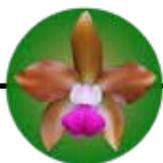
Fred Keefe 1934 - 2017



In Memoriam Fred Keefe
April 14, 1934 – December 3, 2017

Fred Keefe of Del Rei Orchids was a charter member of the St. Augustine Orchid Society, present at the fateful evening in February 2006 at the Lighthouse when the club was formed. He was our colorful auctioneer extraordinaire for many years, and his antics during the monthly raffle were legendary, leaving the crowd in stitches. We all enjoyed his open houses, and he always remembered the less advantaged by collecting toys for tots at Christmas and having food drives in the spring. He and his brother Richard moved to Vegas to enjoy his final years before lung cancer took him from us on December 3rd. Rest in Peace Fred, and thanks for the time we had together!

Share some of your memories with Richard:
10115 Jeffreys St, Apt 1137, Las Vegas, NV 89183



SHOW TABLE



Grower Sue Bottom
Tuberolabium quisumbingii



Grower Suzanne Susko
Prosthechea boothiana



Grower Sue Bottom
Fdk. Enter Light



Grower Rae Coletti
Enc. cochleatum



Grower Rae Coletti
Onc. Twinkle



Grower Tom & Dottie Sullivan
Burr. Pacific Panache 'Dorothy Jean'



Grower Sue Bottom
Slc. Final Touch 'Mendenhoff' ??



SHOW TABLE



Grower Tom & Dottie Sullivan
C. Highlight - Old Whitey x
Bc. Mount Anderson



Grower Sue Bottom
Den. Blue Twinkle



Grower Suzanne Susko
Slc. Japanese Beauty 'Sakura' HCC/AOS



Grower Yvonne & Bob Schimmel
Blc. Valley Isle Queen



Grower Susan Smith
Blc. Mem. Anna Balmores 'Hawaii'



Grower Bob & Yevonne Schimmel
C. Hagans' Ace 'Mandarin Orange'

