

Gainesville Orchid Society
Newsletter
July 2013

A Message from the President of the Gainesville Orchid Society

July continues along this year's unusual path of weather conditions and the ensuing effects on our orchids! As you walk about the town or drive to and from an intended destination, I hope you will pause (but not while driving or in a cross-walk) to admire just how GREEN everything is this year: grass, shrubs, trees, and of course our favorite, weeds(?) all have the glow of the Emerald Isle's glorious color. As Nancy Mason noted in her column, our orchids also have shown how much they benefit from these conditions by producing wonderful and colorful displays of flowers.

In my own growing area, orchids that should be blooming for our October show, are blooming now, and others that should be finished are reblooming. What are we to do???

Our July speaker, Bill Thoms, promises a rare look into the 'wilds' of the Philippines as he invites us along on his six-week search for the elusive and rare *Bulbophyllum* species that I am sure he will have discovered (don't forget to wear your insect repellent)! Later this month, the fall show planning committee will meet (as noted below), and I encourage our members (veteran and new) to try to attend: being part of the show is even more fun than attending! See you all at the July 22nd meeting!

John Ingram

Thanks to our Storage Rental Facility for their Sponsorship
I-75 Business Park & Self Storage, Inc.

<http://i75@gainesvilleselfstorage.com/Gainesville-Florida-32608-81.html>

Next Meeting

Monday, July 22, 2013

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
Gainesville, FL 32608

4700 S.W . 58th Drive

7:00 Beginners Class

"Catasetums" by John Bouret

7:30 Program

"Philippines Orchid Gathering Trip" Bill Thoms

Bill's presentation is about his 6 weeks of hunting orchids (primarily Bulbos) in the Philippines. The presentation offers lots of slides covering the people, the culture and the environment.

Bill will have plants for sale. You may pre-order. For a list of plants and bill's email go to the GOS website.....

<http://www.gainesvilleorchidsociety.org/index/Plants%20for%20Sale%205-2013.pdf>



Bill Thoms got his first orchid in 1969 when he rescued plants of *Encyclia tampensis* in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. (He actually just picked them off trees pushed over for a new condo, but it sounds better). After moving to the Tampa area in the early '70s and, after having a retail orchid nursery for 30 years called Hilltop House, he and his wife, Doris Dukes, (whom he met at a local Orchid Club in the early '80s), took several thousand of their favorite plants and built their own greenhouse at home to retire from the retail

business, relax and continue their hybridizing program. Since then they have moved twice and now live back near Brandon and the awards have grown to: 98 Awards for Culture in over 30 genera including 44 in the bulbophyllum alliance and 18 Certificates for Cultural Excellence (90 points or better); First Class Certificates for Bulbophyllums, Cattleyas, Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums; and over 300 total awards in all categories. Bill also received one of the most prestigious awards given to a hybridizer, an Award of Distinction which is given for a worthy new avenue of breeding. The American Orchid Society has added a new Annual Award for the Bulbophyllums, the Bill Thoms Award.

Bill gives talks nationally and internationally on a wide range of topics ranging from his specialty, "Bulbophyllums," to "General Orchid Culture" which is a favorite of most new growers. They all are presented in a funny style that helps growers understand how the plants work and they all revolve around the culture of orchids. He helps the beginner grower with lots of advice about fixing problems and has a wealth of accumulated information for the more advanced grower, too!

No matter whether you have 1000s of orchids, just a few, or none at all, Bill will give you tips to make any plants grow and bloom better.

Many people say he is one of the best speakers they have ever heard. Come and see for yourself. He has published a new book, [Bulbophyllums; the Incomplete Guide, From A to WHY?](#) (\$44.95), which you may purchase from him. It also comes as a CD (\$19.95) for use on a computer. The book will be discounted for the members and guests!!

LET'S TALK ORCHIDS

The lazy days of summer are here -- high temperatures, lots of showers and humidity. Orchids are responding and growing quickly. With all the rain we've had in July it's important to check for fungal problems. I sprayed with Banrot (1 tbsp. per gal. of water, plus 1/2 tsp. of Ivory dish soap per gal. of water) as a preventative measure. As with any fungicides and insecticides, use protective clothing and follow manufacturers' directions. Our library has the [AOS Handbook on Orchid Pests and Diseases](#). This is a great reference for orchid problems.

Here's an example of not following my own advice of using slug and snail bait more frequently during the multiple, early July rains. A beautiful cattleya hybrid opened with small nibbles on its large, frilly petals. Rats! A slug ruined two lovely bicolored flowers. It only takes a few minutes to prevent orchid disasters like this. At least the blooms still emit a wonderful fragrance.

Many of my phalaenopsis orchids have been in bloom since April, but with the hot days of July they are losing their flowers quickly (no AC in the greenhouse). This means repotting time for them. This blooming season has been one of the best I can remember. I'll miss their colorful spikes. Phalaenopsis can be repotted almost any time, but I find summer to be the best for me. Repotting seems to give them an extra boost. Maybe that's because I add fresh Nutricote (Dynamite) fertilizer pellets to top dress their pots.

Vandas have loved the extra heat, humidity and rain. My terete hybrid Vandaenopsis Mecca's Candy 'Sweet Tooth' has several spikes of lovely pink flowers, as does another no name hybrid. My Rumrillara (Ascocentrum x Neofinetia x Rhynchostylis) has spikes of small light pink flowers. The Neofinetia influence is quite apparent both in the size of the plant and the flower shape.

July and August are also premier months for Miltonias, Miltassias, and a number of Oncidiums. Many of these warm growers are sending up spikes now: Miltassia Darth Vader 'Dark Star' (deep purple), Miltassia Olmec 'Kano' (pink/mahogany), Miltassia Amazon Queen (yellow/mahogany) and Degarmorara Flying High 'Stars and Bars' (yellow/mahogany). I can't wait for Miltonia spectabilis and its hybrids to flower in August!

Other orchids in bloom include C. Roman Candle (purple), Blc. Keowee 'Newberry' (yellow/red speckles in wide lip), Slc. Wendy's 'Redstone' (red), Eplc. May Bly (chartreuse/deep pink lip), Phal. equestris (cream/ purple lip), and Paph. sukhakulii (green/black spots on petals/ reddish brown pouch).

Enjoy the summer and have fun with your orchids. Hope to see you at the meeting.

Nancy Mason

**Welcome New Members:
Henri Logan, Will Boggs, and Rosella Smith**

GOS Show Meeting

Calling all GOS members! Planning for our fall show has begun. There will be a show-planning meeting on Tuesday, July 30th at 7 p.m. at Barb Fennelly's house. This meeting is for anyone who wants to be involved in planning and putting on our show. There will be an announcement at the July meeting, and an email with directions to Barb's will be sent.

AOS Fall Members Meeting to Be Held in Miami

GOS members are cordially invited to attend the Fall AOS Members' Meeting, November 13 - 16, 2013 at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens, 11935 Old Cutler Rd, Miami, FL 33156. This is your chance to learn more about the AOS, hear internationally-known lecturers and see the orchid show and visit the exquisite gardens at Fairchild.

Highlights will be the Orchid Show with Vendors and AOS judging, Preview Party, Affiliated Societies Breakfast, AOS Auction, and Dinner. Scheduled guest lecturers are: Thursday--Dr. Kiat Tan, CEO, Gardens by the Bay, Singapore; Saturday—Fred Clark on Catasetums and Munekazu Ejiri on Cattleya Breeding. The lectures will be held at Fairchild.

Hotel rates will be \$129 (plus state and local taxes) and this rate will be available until October 20. Apparently there is a NASCAR race in the area at the same time so it is predicted that hotels will be scarce. AOS is encouraging those who are interested in attending to make their reservations early.

Courtyard Miami Coconut Grove

2649 S Bayshore Drive, Miami, FL, 33133-5464

The hotel has created a reservation link for you and your guests to book their rooms quickly and easily via the internet. Simply cut and paste any of the links below into your email correspondences to your guests.

To book a Standard King Room:

http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/miagv-courtyard-miami-coconutgrove/?toDate=11/17/13&groupCode=AOSAOSA&stop_mobi=yes&fromDate=11/12/13&app=resvlink
<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/miagv-courtyard-miami-coconutgrove/?toDate=11/17/13&groupCode=AOSAOSA&stop_mobi=yes&fromDate=11/12/13&app=resvlink>

To book a Standard Room with Two Queen Beds:

http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/miagv-courtyard-miami-coconutgrove/?toDate=11/17/13&groupCode=AOSAOSB&stop_mobi=yes&fromDate=11/12/13&app=resvlink

<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/miagv-courtyard-miami-coconutgrove/?toDate=11/17/13&groupCode=AOSAOSB&stop_mobi=yes&fromDate=11/12/13&app=resvlink>

Your guests can contact reservations at 1-888-249-3819 or contact the hotel directly at 305-858-2500. They will have to identify that they are calling for the American Orchid Society so that the operators know to book them under your block with your contracted rate.

GOS Meeting Minutes

June 24, 2013

The meeting began at: 7 pm Beginners meeting, 7:30 pm regular meeting

Refreshments: Tom and Marian Sheehan

Visitors/new members: We had 2 visitors and 3 new members

Beginner's Class: Patti Hollien on Cattleyas: care and maintenance

Announcements:

Refreshments: Need folks to look over the list and see where they can help out

Treasurer: Marti Maguire needs folks to cash checks when they are reimbursed by the society to make the book keeping easier and checkbook can be balanced in a timely manner.

Newsletter: Need someone to volunteer to take on the editing and distribution of the newsletter.

Library: No updates tonight. Remember you can check something out and bring back to the next meeting.

There will be no other greenhouse tours this summer

Membership: New members get a packet and a free plant.

GOS: Dues are due

AOS: November meeting at Fairchild Gardens

Paula: If you want a GOS tee-shirt, we are putting together an order, need 24 to run order.

Bloom Table Winners

Nancy Mason Encyclia tampensis "alba"

Carol Kenudson Doritaenopsis "Aker's Sweetie Dragon Tree Maple"

Carolyn Robinson Paph. concolor (species)

Linda Yon Oncidopsis Pageno "Mi Amour" (Onc. Agloon X Milt. vexillaria)

Mike Sielaff	Dendrobium sanderae var. luzonicum
Candy Hollinger	Cattleya dowiana (species from Costa Rica)
Jack Vernam	Cyrt. paranaense
Candy Hollinger	Schoenorchis fragrans
Chaz Darling	Aerides odorata

Guest Speaker: Glen Gross from Lakeland FL, mounting and care of orchids, key idea: try to mimic the way it would grow in wild.

Treasurer's Report

June, 2013

INCOME

Dues	105.00
Donations	26.00
Suncoast Orchids show fee	175.00
Chapman Orchids show fee	175.00
Silent auction (gross)	112.00
Raffle	79.00
TOTAL	672.00

EXPENSES

Silent auction:	74.68
File and fold cart	28.61
Speaker's meal	6.74
Speaker's fee plus raffle plants	200.00

Total:	310.03
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Checkbook bal.	9745.94
minus reserves	1850.00

Total	7895.94
plus cash box	75.50

FUNDS AVAILABLE	7971.44
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