

Gainesville Orchid Society
Newsletter
April 2013

President's Message

Greetings, and congratulations to all of us who helped our orchid plants survive this most peculiar winter (or non-winter), mild though it was, yet stressful for them and us. Now is the season of growth for many of our botanical friends, and a cautious time for us as well as we endeavor to enable their growing and subsequent blooming with care and attention to water, light, air-circulation, and fertilization. I refer to this period as the 'Goldilocks' season: not too much, not too little, just right!

The auction went very well in March, with both the GOS and its members benefitting, either as sellers or purchasers of auctioned plants. To our sellers: thank you so much for bringing in those great plants, and to providing even more with greater success in the future; to our buyers (including myself), now we get to enjoy our new plants, be mindful of what may be new patterns of orchid culture, and, perhaps most of all, wait with patience (!) for the blooms. Much needed rains are on their way hopefully, and warmer, but not too warm temperatures.

And so we can begin yet again (to paraphrase a well-known word sequence): To explore strange new orchids, To seek out new species and new hybrids, To boldly go where many orchid lovers have or have not gone before.... Cheers and good growing!

John

Next Meeting

Monday, April 22nd

Kanapaha Botanical Gardens
4700 S.W. 58th Drive
Gainesville, FL 32608

7:00 Beginners Class
"Stanhopeas" by Trey Yon

7:30 Program
"How I Grow My Orchids" By Mike Sielaff

GOS's very own Mike Sielaff will tell us how he grows his orchids. If you have seen his plants on the bloom table and on the silent auction table, you know what a good grower he is. He will share his growing methods, tips for success and hopes that we will learn from his mistakes. Mike has been growing orchids for some 40 years; the last 10 as a business. They have a new 24 x 50 greenhouse they built since moving from Oregon 2 years ago. It "houses a little of everything", "Cattleyas and species" being his favorites.

Mike will have orchids for sale.

Welcome New Members: Roger and Diane Parker, and Sue Hatch.

Greenhouse Tour

Saturday, April 27th
10 AM – 2 PM

Mike & Joni Sielaff
8250 SW 138th Terrace
Dunnellon, Florida

The Sielaffs live about 8 miles east of Dunnellon and about 50 miles south of Gainesville. You can take I-75 to Ocala, or go via Archer/Williston. Written directions will be available by e-mailing Roy Cline rscline@cox.net (352-336-8365), or BETTER, copies will be available at our April 22nd GOS meeting.

Mike and Joni are GOS's most active growers. Mike has been growing orchids for some 40 years; the last 10 as a business. They have a new 24 x 50 greenhouse they built since moving from Oregon 2 years ago. It "houses a little of everything", but he likes "Cattleyas and species". Expect that there will be lots of things flowering, especially Dendrobiums, when you come. It should be a beautiful spring week-end drive, specially via the Archer-Dunnellon route.

RECOMMENDATION: CAR-POOL: I can coordinate 'em if you wish. Sign up and we can announce drivers at the April 22nd GOS meeting.

CAR-POOL....SAVE ON GAS, AND SPLURGE ON PLANTS!

Roy Cline

LET'S TALK ORCHIDS

Spring is here and it's time to move orchids outside to their summer residences. Unlike folks who have greenhouses with evaporative coolers (air conditioning for plants), I rely on outdoor breezes and dappled shade to cool my orchids when temperatures get toasty. Vandas especially enjoy more light and spring showers. When hanging vandas in high light, I drape them with Spanish moss to protect them from burning. I also use 30-40% shade cloth to protect other orchids like cattleyas, oncidiums, and dendrobiums. Invariably, some orchids get a touch of sunburn - black spots that remain forever as a reminder that, alas, I have too many orchids to take care of properly.

One of the tricky aspects of orchid growing is watering. I always have trouble in the transition seasons - spring and fall. With temperatures so variable it's hard to know when to water. If it's hot and windy, orchids dry faster than in cool, cloudy weather. Two watering rules to follow are never leave an orchid in standing water and avoid over-watering. There are also other considerations:

some types of orchids require more water than others; some have rest periods certain times of the year. It's always wise to find out about the conditions your orchids need to thrive.

To test for dryness, press your finger about 1 knuckle deep into the medium or use a sharpened pencil and insert it carefully in the pot. If damp, hold off watering. Generally, I water about 1 time per week in winter and at least twice a week or more in summer.

Here are some tips for watering: water in the morning; note that plants in small pots or clay pots will dry out faster than plastic or large pots; newly repotted plants need to be watered more frequently; avoid allowing water to collect in the crown (especially phalaenopsis); and finally, remember to water thoroughly, making sure the medium and roots are drenched to flush out accumulated salts. Always use room temperature water since cold water can shock plant roots and leaves.

My April blooming orchids include Bc. Cynthia 'Lilac Gem' AM/AOS (fragrant), Den. loddigesii (pink/yellow in lip), Dial. Fair Jewel (pink, fragrant), Ctna. Maui Maid (small white), Den. pulchellum (light yellow/dark purple 'eyes' in lip), Phal. David Hill (white with pink spots/ pink lip), Phal. Patricia Hollien (white with pink veining/pink lip), Phaius (pulchellus 'EFG' x tankervilleae 'EFG' (light pink/ purple lip), Paph. hainanense (pink), and Paph. Lynleigh Koopowitz (white/ rose-purple veining and purple in the staminode).

Happy orchid growing. I'll see you at the meeting.

Nancy Mason

Away Shows

Tallahassee Orchid Show

April 20-21

It's not too late to enter your orchids.

Getting Your Orchids Ready

Clean Plants thoroughly with soap and water. Use diet 7-up, lemon juice or mild to clean up leaves (do not use commercial leaf shine products). Inspect plants for insects: scale, mealy bugs, etc. and remove. Groom plant...cut off dead material, brown tips of leaves. Anchor plant in pot with rhizome clips or whatever works for your plant Stake all flowers securely (no colored plastic clips, please). Plants have to be moved four times before getting into the exhibit. Make sure there is a legible tag in the pot. Put your name on each plant pot. Pack all of your plants in a box or a crate that can be transported in a vehicle and carried by an average person. Use packing material to secure the plants. Put your name on each box or crate so that we can return it to you with your plants.

Registering Your Plants During the week before the show research your plants for the following information: Plant name and Parents if the plant is a hybrid. If you do not know the parents of your plant(s), please contact Candy Hollinger at drahcir7@bellsouth.net.

By Wednesday evening, April 17th please email your plant descriptions to Candy at drahcir7@bellsouth.net. Include the following:

- Name of plant
- Parents if plant is a hybrid
- A detailed color description and bloom size (e.g.white with red spots, 1.5 inch bloom)□
- Paphiopedilums and Dendrobiums---type if known□

On Thursday, April 18 bring your plants all ready to go to Candy's house.

9513 SW 51st Road (Spalding Place neighborhood in Haile Plantation)
Gainesville, FL 32608
352-335-0175

Volusia County Society Orchid Show May 11-12.

We need additional people to help with takedown on Sunday, May 12th. If you are able to help please contact Georgia at plbgs2@windstream.net

Announcements

The Gainesville Bromeliad Society will present a **Bromeliad Workshop**
Sunday, April 28, 2013
2:00-4:30 p.m.
UF Entomology/Nematology Bldg. Room 1031
1881 Natural Area Dr.
(East of the Harn Museum, south of the lacrosse field on Hull Rd.)

The workshop will include talks and demonstrations: potting and mounting techniques, cold hardy varieties for north Florida, and landscape design. There will be plants for sale, door prizes, and refreshments. Come and learn about great companion plants for orchids!

AOS Corner

Welcome to the newly elected members of the Board of Trustees of AOS. At the Members' meeting held in March in San Diego, California, Fred Clarke was re-elected to the Board of Trustees for a three-year period and Harry Gallis, David Toyoshima and Carol Zoltowski were newly elected for the same three-year period. For more information on these new Trustees' background information may be found on the AOS website. In addition, Alan Koch, Tom Etheridge and Linda Wilhelm are the outgoing Trustees.

In addition at the Trustees and Members meeting, Frank and Taylor Slaughter of

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, each received separate AOS Silver Medals for their dedicated service to the AOS. Taylor for her service to the AOS judging system, as the first chair of the Governance Committee and service as a member of the Board of Trustees in various capacities for a number of years. Frank received his award for his service to the technology needs of the AOS.

Direct-mail marketing assistance for AOS Affiliated Societies' Shows is available the purpose of promoting the shows, seminars and special society events via direct mail from the AOS's Membership Services Department. Please contact AOS well in advance of your anticipated mailing with the states, countries or zip or postal code ranges you are interested in obtaining. While this service is free of charge to affiliated societies, AOS would appreciate a donation to help defray costs associated with producing and mailing these lists (if print copies are requested). Contact the Society's Membership Services Department at 305-740-2010.

Interesting Orchid Hybrid Trivia from AOS Website

The total number of grex names in the register is currently 154,660 (as of now). This figure increases daily. Each year The International Orchid Register adds between 3000-4000 new hybrids.

The most popular genera for hybrids are:

Phalaenopsis — 31,382

Paphiopedilum — 23,871

Cymbidium — 14,688

Dendrobium — 11,910

So far there are about 2349 hybrid generic names, but not all of these are in use. There are about 5,600 species involved in hybridization.

Lynn Fuller, Chair
AOS Affiliated Society

GOS Meeting Minutes

March 25th, 2013

We held our annual spring auction. There was no business meeting or bloom table.

Treasurer's Report

MARCH 2013

INCOME

Membership dues	\$185.00
Donation	\$381.00
Del Ray Beach Nursery	\$85.40
Auction	\$1,210.00
Total Income	\$1,861.40

RESERVES

Hollien Award	\$850.00
Donation	\$1,000.00
Total Reserves	\$1,850.00

EXPENSES

Wrist Bands Spring Festival	\$16.00
Auction Reimbursements	\$790.05
PO Box	\$124.00
Target Copy	\$46.93
Photo Board Membership Pkts	\$24.36
Travel Jacksonville Show	\$146.00
Total Expenses	\$1,147.34

Balance as of 4/6/13	\$10,208.06
Petty cash on hand	\$76.00
less reserves	\$1,850.00
AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$8,434.06

Submitted by Marti McGuire
