



A Note from the Editor



Member Auction SUCCESS!

Our June meeting was our annual member auction. We had 36 in attendance, 32 bidders. Total sales of \$1259.00 The society made \$522.

There were 8 members who brought in plants for a total of 28 plants with bidding ranging from \$20.00 to \$100.00. The two top bids of \$100.00 went to owners Jerry Steel and Marge Fantozzi.

A big Thanks to our auctioneer Steve Balderson for always making it fun, and to all those members who volunteered to help keep it moving smoothly.

July's meeting will be held at Krull Smith Nursery 2800 W Ponkan Rd, Apopka, FL 32712 on Saturday the 17th at 9am. Please remember to bring a chair and a cool drink as we will be meeting outside under a covered pavillion.

Jillian will be speaking to us about care of Bulbophyllums. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided.



We will not be meeting at Leu Gardens on Monday the 11th.

CFOS Editor
Jeanne Brenan

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Auction Fall October 2022



The Importance of Fresh Air

The importance of fresh air to orchids is possibly the least appreciated aspect of growing orchids. All the orchid books tell you to ensure there is air movement around your orchids. For years I kept adding fans to my growing area thinking I was satisfying this basic requirement. But orchids do not want recirculated stale air, they want to be bathed in fresh air, particularly the wafting breezes they get when they are outdoors.

The first time Ruben Sauleda of Ruben in Orchids talked to our orchid club, we talked about how I could Improve my orchid growing. At that time, we had the traditional greenhouse with a wet wall at one end, exhaust fans at the



opposite end and polypropylene covering all the other surfaces. Ruben took one look at the greenhouse and said rip out the water wall and replace the side wall with stucco metal lath, keep the vents open at either end of the greenhouse and open the top vent. This allowed free movement of air throughout the greenhouse during the growing season. A retractable curtain closes off the stucco metal lath during cold weather, but otherwise the plants are always bathed in fresh air. That was the year the greenhouse exploded with new growth and an incredible display of blooms.

I struggled trying to grow vandas in the hoop house covered with greenhouse film with doors at either end. When Rafael Romero of Plantio La Orquidea looked at our growing set up, he told us to rip out the film on the side wall and replace it with stucco metal lath and a retractable curtain. Voilà, the vandas bloomed freely and the incidence of leaf spotting and rots was greatly diminished. During the summer growing season, the vandas are now all moved out into summer shade structures that allow free air on all four sides. Vandas grow like weeds in the fresh breezes.

This demand for fresh air makes sense if you think about how many orchids evolved from understory terrestrials to epiphytes. Many types of orchids left the forest floor to grow high in the canopy on the trunks or branches of tall forest trees where more light was available and where winds were stronger than on the ground.

Wafting breezes offer many benefits to your orchids:

Fresh moving air improves gas exchange through leaf pores and around the rhizomes and roots, a process that is required for the plant's metabolic processes.

Fresh moving air cools the leaves during warm weather when high light and high temperatures could otherwise cause the plant to overheat and restrict its metabolic processes, and possibly result in leaf sunburn.

Fresh moving air helps distribute warm and cold air so extremes in air temperature will not harm the vegetation. Fresh moving air helps dry excess moisture from the leaves so bacteria and fungi will not proliferate.

Of course, air movement and humidity must be in balance. in a low-humidity environment, excess air movement will cause more evaporation and possibly result in dehydration. in a high-humidity environment, air movement is a must to prevent orchid disease problems.

During the cooler months, your orchids are probably in their winter homes inside. You can group your plants on humidity trays filled with pebbles to hold extra water after watering and provide some humidity around the plants. a fan blowing a gentle breeze around your plants is good. When the temperature is right, you can open a window by your plants and let them get a taste of the fresh air they crave.

When warm weather returns, try to find a location outdoors where your orchids can get loads of fresh air. a screened porch is great, particularly for phalaenopsis that want shadier conditions and a covered roof where water won't accumulate in the crown of the plant causing rot. Hanging your orchids under a tree where they'll receive dappled light and fresh breezes 24 hours a day will result in an incredible summer growth surge, particularly if you ramp up your watering and fertilizing schedules to match the increased plant vigor.

Proper air movement is just as important to your orchid as providing the proper amount of water and light to your plant. It is also the least appreciated aspect of orchid growing. If you struggle with fungal and bacterial problems on your plants, you can apply chemicals to treat the symptoms. However, in many instances, proper air movement would have prevented the problem from arising in the first place.



June

July

- 4 Jerry Steele8 Debi Johnson
- 9 David Grieve
- 9 Gerri VanBreeman
- 21 Robert Molpus
- 24 Gretchen Schitter
- 25 Carol Mears
- 28 Rhonda Hunt
- 10 Georgeanne Lewis
- 13 Tony Byrd
- 16 Doug Watson
- 21 James Sabetto
- 23 Pat Jackowski
- 25 Marcia Ogelsby



7-01 Robert Molpus

7-01 Nicole Oda

7-01 Marian Perito

7-01 Keith Ricklick

7-02 Brian Behm

7-02 Robert & Joanne Bennett

7-03 Sharon Cowman

7-03 Lori Erlacher

7-04 Ann Parrish

7-04 Sandy & Richard Womble

7-05 Roger Mabini

7-06 Robin Buckler

7-06 Marsha Hearl

7-06 Gail Holdiman

7-07 Sandy Groves 7-07 Carol Mears

7-07 Caron Mears
7-09 Lorna Gardon

7-09 Bob Woodbery

7-10 Jeanne Blankenship

7-10 Glen Blaser

7-10 Ann Overton

7-10 Richard Stujenske

7-11 Lorraine Amos

7-11 John Beasley

7-11 Sheila Coburn

7-11 Joyce Gibault

7-11 Mary Krease

7-11 Ken Hubbard

7-11 Althea Montgomery

7-11 Ivelissa Ortega

7-11 Giselle Porto

7-11 Norin Stone

7-12 Roger Appleby

7-12 Stephane Banks

7-12 Moti Khemlani

7-12 Barbara Thoren

7-12 Janet Yee

7-13 Ave Armstrong

7-13 Dolly, Eileen & Scott Akers

7-13 Isobel Anderson

7-13 Rosalin Baird

7-13 Julien Baruch

7-13 Daphne Boogaard

7-13 Tony Byrd

7-13 Janie Campbell

7-13 Erica Egeli

7-13 Erica Egeli

7-13 Samantha Fischer

7-13 Dawn Garraputa

7-13 Nicole Gertz

7-13 Vanessa Griggs

7-13 Janice Hepburn

7-13 Vivian Luscuskie

7-13 Tina Massicotte

7-13 Edi Meadows

7-13 Allison Melegrito

7-13 Allison Welegill

7-13 Patrick Nolan

7-13 Nancy Parkhurst

7-13 Goitia Roque

7-13 Ly Tran

7-13 Colton Warriner

7-20 Alida & Ed Eldridge

7-21 Monica Poorbaugh

Culture Group

For those members interested in hands-on learning for the care and culture of all types of orchids, the Cultural Study Group meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM at Leu Botanical Gardens. *There will be no meeting for July and August due to remodeling of Leu Botanical Gardens*. Members are encouraged to bring in their "problem plants" for show and tell and for guidance on how to address those problems. Membership for this group is \$5 annually. Teri Scott oversees this meeting and is a wealth of information that she gladly shares.



American Orchid Society Education. Conservation. Research.



Let's Grow Together



In addition to recorded webinars there is a video library on the AOS website. The American Orchid Society video library contains many useful, how-to video clips on various aspects of orchids and orchid culture. These videos are self-contained and do not require any player or other software.

Learn more about joining the AOS

https://secure.aos.org/join/new-membership

PROGRESS OF THE SEASON

An exceptionally wet year has spawned an exceptionally wet June. It behooves us to offer our plants every possible protection from disease this year as the rainy season progresses.

Such protective measures always start with good basic culture. In a year like this it is good to remind oneself that it is always best to grow any genus in the brightest light that the plants will easily tolerate.

Plants grown in bright light, dry out more quickly deterring disease but are also much harder which also confers on them greater disease resistance. Find the brightest spot for each of your plants but also look up to see if any foliage or other obstacle to sunlight can be removed.

It is not too early to think of pruning as a storm precaution but also as fruit trees finish bearing, they can be pruned to make them safer homes for our orchids and more productive next year.

Air movement is also essential to increase drying and prevent disease. Remember air movement increases exponentially with height. Hang your plants as high as possible. Plants on benches will need additional space between them as they grow and specimen plants in particular if not hung need a wide berth from their companions on the bench.

Cleanliness is also important. All protoplasm comes from previously existing protoplasm so removing all dead leaves from the growing area removes the inoculum of disease.

An ounce of prevention is always worth a pound of cure, so following the preventive spray

program in Florida Orchid Growing will spare a good deal of grief.

Finally, the master's shadow is indispensable in disease control. Great growers look at everyone one of their plants every day. The wonderful cool of early morning is the best time to scout. Any problem plant can be removed to a dry location and treated before the onset of the typical afternoon rains.

Snails are flourishing in the extra wetness and have had the opportunity to travel long distances to arrive at our flowers and tender new growth. In fairness to our less assiduous neighbors, many snails are home grown. Properly applied at about one pellet per square foot, snail bait is both safe and effective, but a second application in 10-14 days will be required.

Although the rains can cause problems, those rain clouds have a silver lining in the cooled air that follows the rain. We native Floridians know to relish the phenomenon and enjoy being outside with our plants.

This artical brought to you from www.motesorchids.com



Details for July and August meetings at Krull Smith

The July meeting will be held on Saturday the 16th.

The August meeting will be held on Saturday the 13th.

Both meetings will start at 9am and will be held outside under a pavillion.

Please bring your own chair. Light refreshments will be provided.

Address for Krull Smith is 2800 W Ponkan Rd, Apopka, FL 32712



You can visit The Central Florida Orchid Society on the web where you can get information about upcoming events, see who next month's speaker is, read about our society's history, find some great resource links for care of your orchids, and pay your dues.

Check us out at https://cflorchidsociety.org



You can support our Society simply by shopping at Amazon through their Amazon Smile program. Just go to http://smile.amazon.com every time you shop at Amazon Smile they'll donate .05% of the profits to us! When you checkout for the first time, you will be asked to designate your charity. Type in Central Florida Orchid Society in the search bar - We appear as "Central Florida Orchid Society Inc"



Like the "Central Florida Orchid Society group" on Facebook. We post details about all of our events, meetings and shows. There is an amazing collection of pictures of our orchids from previous events and judgings, as well as an open forum for questions and discussions. Click on the link below and join in on the fun!! https://www.facebook.com/groups/cflorchidsociety

Membership is now due and can be paid at our meeting with cash, check or credit card and on the website with a credit card. <u>MEMBER SALES</u> Yearly dues:

Individual - \$30 Couple - \$45 Under 18 - \$15

Leadership

President: Lori Erlacher
Vice President: Robin Buckler
Treasurer: Nancy Balderson

Cor. Secretary: Vacant

Rec. Secretary: Jeanne Brenan
Membership: Sheila Coburn
Newsletter: Jeanne Brenan

ter: Jeanne Brenan cfoseditor@aol.com

Board of Directors -

Jerry Steele Jeanne Blankenship Althea Montgomery Cari Johnson

JULY 2022							
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
					1	2	
3	Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	CFOS meeting @ Krull Smith	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							