



Florida West Coast Orchid Society

Orchid News & Views

September 2009 Volume 7, No 9

Meeting Information

September 10, 2009

*7:30 pm Featured Speaker Jim
Clarkson on Pests and Diseases*

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- Remember food!

Come early!
MEMBER
PLANT SALE
AND RAFFLE
6:30 p m
BRING
ORCHIDS TO SELL!

FWCOS
Orchid News & Views

Brenda Miller—Editor, Content and Advertising:
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14444 Neptune Rd, Seminole, FL 33776
Content must be received by one week past the
monthly meeting for inclusion in the following
months newsletter. Ads must be in high resolution
(at print size) Picture format: .TIF, .GIF, JPG or
.PDF . Submitted via email or CD.

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The Florida West Coast Orchid Society (FWCOS)
Meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at Pinellas
County Extension.

Operating Procedures
for Membership

Membership—the term of membership shall be for
the calendar year. Annual dues for the first annual
member in a household shall be \$18.00, each addi-
tional annual member in a household and not receiv-
ing a newsletter shall be \$12.00.

Members renewing before December 31st may re-
ceive a 10% discount for the early renewal. For new
members joining from July to December these
months will be prorated at \$1.50/month in addition
to the next year's membership of \$18.00. In the case
of a household with life or honorary members, they
shall be considered the first annual member of a
household. Lifetime membership is \$180.00.

FWCOS
Board of Directors 2008

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From Our President

Hello Orchid Friends-

I hope your summer has been fun and your travels safe. As we approach the upcoming months, I want to share with everyone the many great volunteer opportunities that are available to our members and guests. Our society has several ways for you to be involved and support our mission. Please take a moment to engage in one of these volunteer events as we work to spread the education, conservation and preservation of the most beautiful flower species in the world: ORCHIDS.



Pam Heath

Sunken Garden project- participates in growing orchids and placing them in the gardens. Contact Bill Nunez: biddison2@aol.com

Annual Show on October 2-4th- we need help at the Admission table, Membership booth, Culture advisors, Book Sales, Show set up and clean up. Contact Brent Finke: brent@irbhardware.com

Monthly Society meetings: we need assistance with refreshment set up, raffle plants, judging tables, and welcoming new members. Contact Cheryl Finke or Bob Barrett: rob2781@yahoo.com.

Botanical Gardens- we need your time in helping in the gardens at the Extension Center as part of our commitment for using the facility for our meetings. Contact Andy Wilson: awilson@co.pinellas.fl.us

USF Botanical Gardens: in support of orchid education and conservation, there are opportunities to help in these gardens also. Contact Jim Clarkson: orchidaholic@att.net

Orchid Passion: Share your orchid enjoyment with friends, kids, and neighbors- the more growers, the more flowers, the more fun! Contact: YOU!!

Enjoy your orchids!

Pam

Our Featured Speaker

Jim Clarkson, a long time member of FWCOS will be teaching us all about 'Pests and Diseases'. He is a retired Army Officer, spending 20 years in the Chemical Corps. He moved to Florida in 1984 and started growing orchids in 1985. He grows many different types of orchids to include all major genera, specializing in the species. His main area of interest is paphiopedilums. He has two growing areas, a hobby greenhouse and the pool cage. He does his own hybridizing and grows orchids from seed. He does some flasking for growers. He entered the American Orchid Society Judging program in 1992 and became a fully accredited judge in the Florida North Central Judging Center in 1998. He has also judged at the 17th World Orchid Conference in Kuala Lumpur and the 19th World Orchid Conference in Miami. Is a member of AOS Affiliated Societies Committee and the Board of Directors for Orchid Digest Corp. He has over 30 AOS awards to include the Butterworth prize. He has done presentations for ten plus years, mainly on the west coast of Florida. The subjects include Growing Orchids from Seed, Paphiopedilums and Dendrobiums. He has also spoken to the British Paph Society in Winchester. He is Curator of Orchids at the University of South Florida 'Botanical Gardens and conducts numerous workshops on orchid culture.



Jim Clarkson

Strap Leaf Vandas

Many strap-leaf vandas lose their lower leaves as they get older. The plants then lose some of their vigor. If new roots break out high on the stem, the stem may be cut below the roots and the plant repotted in new compost. However, new roots may not appear. Make a light cut all around the stem where you wish roots to break. Wrap the stem in polyethylene and fasten around stem below cut—about an inch. Fill sack thus made with saturated sphagnum or peat moss and tie snugly to stem above the cut. Keep the filling moist and roots will break usually at or near the cut. When new roots are 1" long cut stem below them and pot up in new compost.

Meetings and Events

September 2009

Sept 10, FWCOS; 6:30 Member Plant Sale; 7 pm Education Class; 7:30 pm Featured Speaker, Jim Clarkson; Pinellas County Extension Center, 12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo; Contact Bob Barrett [727-726-1697].

Sept 12, AOS Judging;; 1:30 pm Orlando, Leu Gardens, Palm Room, 1920 N Forest Ave, Orlando. Marv Ragan 904-213-4500.

Sept 13, Bill Nunez' Open House [11645 83rd Ave N, Seminole - Just off Ridge Rd/ 83rd] 1—4 pm; Refreshments, Questions Answered. 392-6864.

Sept 17, 6:30 pm Tampa Bay Orchid Society: Prem Subrahmayam on 'Orchids in Our Own Back Yard - Florida Native Orchids'; Tampa Garden Club, 2629 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa; Contact Dory Gallagher 813-907-7025.

Sept 19, 20, 22 Ridge Orchid Society Annual Show & Sale, 121 S Lake Ave., Lakeland 33813; Contact Jackie Schwartz 863-646-4983 jschwartz@aol.com .

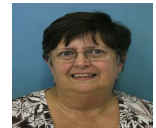
Sept 22, 10 am Tampa Orchid Club; Ryan Kowalczyk, Ursa Orchids 'Cata-setinae Culture'; The Ragan Center,: 1200 E Lake Ave, Tampa; Contact Sue Barnum 813-281-2126.

Sept 23, 7:30 pm AOS Judging, Tampa Garden Center, 2629 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa, Contact Ken Roberts 813-752-8719

Oct 8, FWCOS; 7 pm Education Class; 7:30 pm Featured Speaker; Pinellas County Extension Center, 12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo; Contact Cheryl Finke 727-581-3987 .

From Our Membership

We have a new member. We welcome her and want you to meet her so be sure to say hello to Linda Schuler who resides in Clearwater.



Diane Jones

We have lots of new people, so when you are meandering around, don't forget to introduce yourself to them.

Respectfully,

Diane Jones

Membership Chairman

No Ribbons, No Silver, No Awards

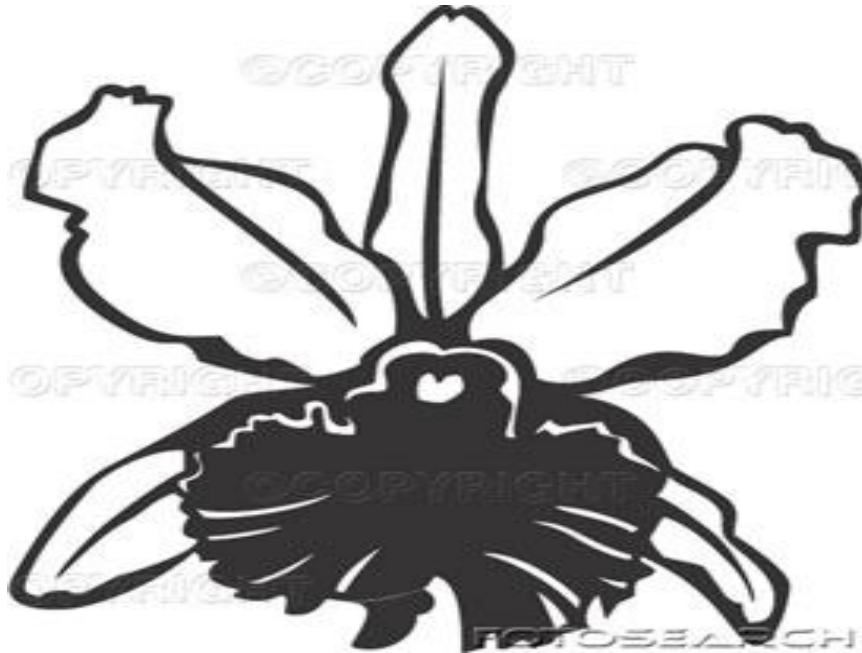
I pot my orchids right on time
And keep my every plant in prime
They send out leads that grow and grow
But they're never ready for a show.
My hopes get up just months before
When I see sheafs and buds galore.
They bloom, I watch them fade and go
About three days before a show.
I experiment with heat and light
Practically camp out there at night
And then they bloom on time? Oh No!
Three days to a week, after a show.
Of course a stinker, a dud, or a smo
Will always bloom on time for a show.

-Author Unknown

[Feb 1968 FWCOS News & Views]

Florida West Coast Orchid Society

'Fall Orchid Frenzy' *Orchid Show and Sale*



Friday - Sunday, October 2, 3, & 4, 2009

Open 10 am - 4 pm All Days

Honeywell Minnreg Building

6340 126th Ave, Largo

Located on 126th Ave between US 19 N & 66 St N

Free Parking

15 Vendors/Displays

Snacks & Drinks For Sale

Orchid Classes & Potting Booth Sat & Sun

Contact: Brent Finke 727.460.4606

Ten Types of Orchid Growers

By Carol Siegel

It is a well-documented fact that orchid growers are smarter, nicer, cuter and more interesting than everybody else. However, although our hobby makes us all poor, we are not all the same. We are easily divided into recognizable types, each as different from the other as a cattleya from a masdevallia.

THE INNOCENT

Clutching his Home Depot orchids, the new member radiates enthusiasm and optimism. He proudly owns three orchids although he doesn't know what they are since the tags just say "Plant." His orchids look better than yours because he just bought them. Armed with the knowledge that orchids are just like any other houseplant, he enthusiastically waters them every day, leaves them in the dark, and repots in soil. It starts innocently enough, this new fascination with orchids. Walking into Home Depot, he can't resist the \$15 orchid in glorious bloom. He is just going to buy one. Now he dreams at night about orchids. Experienced growers know that orchids contain some unknown opiate and that one orchid is never enough, but the new member hasn't figured out why he now spends all his time visiting a hardware store. He enters his first orchid meeting like the devoted entering a church, starry-eyed at the plants in bloom and salivating over the plants for sale. Orchid clubs love the new member. Though clueless, he radiates the infatuation and thrill of the early orchid addiction- and he will buy anything in bloom...anything...even if it doesn't have a tag.

THE DECORATOR

This member really wants an orchid for her kitchen table, one for her nightstand, and maybe one in the entry. She doesn't actually want to grow orchids. She wants orchids that are always in bloom, full of flowers, bug-free, and low maintenance, plastic flowers with real petals and a great smell. Favoring designer clothes, this attractive member really loves anything beautiful and will spend big bucks to buy large, pretty plants with gorgeous flowers. She wants it all. She wants the orchids but she doesn't want the work. Like the self-walking dog or the diaper-free baby, the care-free orchid is an urban myth. At one meeting, she comments to a friend, "But they only bloom for three months a year...What am I supposed to do with it the other nine months?" Orchid clubs love the decorator. She is a wonderful source of donated plants for the raffle.

THE BREEDER

Recognized by the fact that she never goes anywhere without her toothpick, the breeder will brashly approach you with an offer to be your pod parent. Smelling of Clorox, she collects baby food jars and agar like others collect stamps. She is genuinely interested in your caudicles. Invited into your greenhouse, she eyes your cattleya and then slowly says, "Nice pollinia..." She adores having thousands of the same little tiny plants and is more patient than most mortals as the years pass into a decade before her creations bloom. Although she will never admit it, crossing orchids makes her feel like God. She is eternally optimistic that the next cross will be bigger, thicker, taller, more award-worthy... Her goal in life is to produce a black orchid with five-foot petals. Orchid clubs love the breeder. She has thousands of the same plant and will sell her less stellar efforts real cheap.

THE SHOW-OFF

Truth be known, there is a little of the show-off in every orchid grower, but the show-off just has a terminal case of the Look-At-Me-And-How-Good-I-Am. The sure tip-off that you are dealing with a show-off is that he never has any problems with his plants. None of his plants die. He always asks, "Scale? What is scale?" and has never

had any of his buds blast. He lies a lot. Like the fisherman's big one that got away, the one he has at home is much bigger than the one he brought to the show. Every conversation is peppered with Latin. *Bulbophyllum grandiflora* and *Angraecum sesquipedale* end every sentence, and he pronounces them all correctly. No matter what the question, he has the answer, and he always knows a better way to do anything than you do. He calls Ned Nash and Robert Fuchs "Ned" and "Bobby," and he always tell you he had some judging chairman staying at his house last week. He has the newest potting material and calls his growing area "The Conservatory." Orchid clubs love the show-off. He is usually the president.

THE INDIANA JONES

Most of us get to know the Indiana Jones of the orchid world because, after surviving yellow fever and malaria in the jungles of South America, they all become speakers at orchid meetings. None of their clothes match, and they always wear shorts and Texas. Be careful about shaking hands with them since they may still be infected with some incurable jungle rot. They have fabulous slides of native orchid huts and snakes, and their adventures always cause a shiver of delicious envy to go through the group. They know the most interesting people, most of whom exist on the edges of polite society, and they go places and do things that the rest of us only dream of. They always show at least one slide of an orchid that sells for \$5000 on the black market that they DID NOT take back with them because they are good people not like the other thieves and non-environmentally-conscious explorers. Orchid societies love the Indiana Jones. They bring the jungle to us in air-conditioned comfort.

THE SAINT

This orchid grower exists in a state of grace. She blooms *masdevallias* in the desert and *laelias* in the arctic circle. She wins lots of AOS awards because her *paphiopedilum* bloom with fifteen spikes while yours only puts out one spike every leap year. She built her greenhouse herself from sticks she found in the street while helping on a girl scout clean-up and heats and cools it for only \$15 a year. She is the first one to offer you a division of her prize-winning plant and invites new members over to watch her repot her plants. She is happy to bring food to orchid club meetings and always vacuums. Orchid clubs love her. Who wouldn't? (Of course, there is the rumor she belongs to a cult that practices black magic, but maybe that is just jealousy...)

THE VENDOR

Professional growers don't like to be called vendors. It sounds like the man with the accordion, the monkey and the tin cup, plying his wares in the street. Orchid growers like to think they are green activists spreading joy and beauty utilizing the most advanced techniques science has to offer. They are actually orchid hobbyists who ran out of space. They have to sell the stuff to make room to buy more. Most growers didn't mean to become growers. They just had to do it to support their habit. Many just became embarrassed by getting caught by their mate bringing another orchid into the house. The quick response, "Oh, I was thinking of starting a business," turned into the actual business. Of course, there is always the BLUE BLOOD orchid grower whose father gave them the business. These are the orchid dynasties that are always trying to live up to their father's legacy by becoming fiercely active in the AOS. Orchid clubs love the vendor. Vendors are to orchid growers what drug dealers are to junkies.

THE NATIVE ORCHID NUT

The native orchid nut thinks it is a sin to actually CAGE orchids in a greenhouse and would never dream of actually CAPTURING an orchid and growing it outside the jungle. They will tell you that you don't need to own an elephant in order to love and protect elephants. In fact, you shouldn't own any at all. These are frequently college professors with many books and papers to their names, smarter and better-educated than the rest of the mere mortals in the orchid world. They publish a lot and debate the morals of collecting seed in

the wild. They go on their honeymoon to a rain forest in Venezuela where they trek through the mud with their beloved in search of the ultimate blue *Cattleya mossiae*. Instead of watching TV at night, they study the little maps of the states with dots on it indicating where the native orchids are found. Their idea of a good time is rediscovering *Spiranthes diluvialis* in Panaca in a hay field. They dream of going to heaven and having a native orchid named for them. They wonder if there are any undiscovered native orchids in heaven. Orchid clubs love the native orchid nut. They make members feel they are part of a conservation movement

THE SPECIALIST

After collecting orchids for five years, your orchid area is stuffed with stuff that you won in the raffle when they were very small plants, and you didn't know better. They are so big now that you now call them, "Madame," and, like a first wife, you dream of trading them in for something that is more to your tastes these days. There is one special kind of orchid that grabs your heart and your mind. You want to have one of every color of *Cattleya intermedia* or the like, and you regard stuff you once cherished as "ordinary." You have become a specialist. Your e-mail address now proclaims your single-minded devotion and you become Phragman@cox.net or Laeliagirl@aol.com. Your first act of the day is to check websites that have your beloved genus or species, and they know you by your first name at those nurseries. You are the first one they call when a weird and exotic bulbophyllum arrives, and you actually fantasize about winning an AOS award with something in your collection. You now regard anything but species as too pathetic to collect. Orchid clubs love the specialist. They are usually the only ones that know what they are talking about.

THE SPOUSE

Often neglected, impossible to ignore, the orchid spouse is often the unwilling grower of orchids. Although occasionally there are two enthusiasts in the home, usually one spouse is the addict, and the other is the Al Anon partner. The spouse begins to suspect that something is wrong when entries in the checkbook read only, "O," the code name for orchid. Orchids begin to enter the house through the garage or when the spouse is at the hairdresser or at golf. Special areas of the house are devoted only to orchids, and mold starts to grow on the walls of the house because of all the humidity. Vacations are planned around orchid shows and nurseries, and a broken spike means a day of depression. The orchid spouse is the unsung hero or heroine of the orchid grower's life. Sucked into helping with watering and shlepping, the spouse learns to take second place to the affair with orchids. Orchid clubs love the spouse. They bring the best cookies to the meetings.

No matter what kind of orchid grower you are, know that you belong to a select group of very special beings, those whose hearts belong to orchids. They wonder if there are any undiscovered native orchids in heaven. Orchid clubs love the native orchid nut. They make members feel they are part of a conservation movement.

To reproduce this article, permission must be given by the author.

Have you patiently nursed your Slc hybrid seedlings along and then when they finally bloomed, you were disappointed in the color? If they bloomed in midsummer, perhaps you can do something about it. Growers say that Slc's blooming in summer are not at their best and they recommend breaking off new 'eyes' of these summer blooming plants when they are about one inch long. They say that two new eyes will soon appear and these will develop into Fall or Winter blooms which will be 'far superior'.

F W C O S F I E L D T R I P

Oct 24, 2008

7:30 a m Prompt Lv Walmart US 19 Just North of Park Blvd by gas station

8 am Lv Hillsborough Walmart Dale Mabry / I-275 Restaurant parking lot

Arr ~9:30 EFG OCTOBERFEST

~10 VENDERS—GERMAN FOOD

Free Plant for Bus Passengers!

Miranda's Orchids

BRAZILIAN SPECIES & CROSSES

If time—1 More Grower Visit

Cost: \$30 Per Person

Payment Required by Oct 1st

Corinne 727-447-2898 parnold3@tampabay.rr.com

On day of trip call 727-447-2898

NO REFUNDS AFTER OCT 1

Monthly Checklist for September and October

Cattleya

Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

Cycnoches

This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches ventricosum*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

Cymbidium

Through diligent modern breeding programs, the cymbidium season gets stretched longer and longer. Now we can expect to have flowers open as early as September and October. Stake inflorescences and move the plants to a shadier location to help the flowers develop successfully. Because the plants will have warmth tolerance "built in" genetically, keeping the plants as cool as possible will help prevent bud curl. For the midseason varieties, inflorescences should be initiated by now. Feed plants on a regular schedule with a balanced fertilizer (20-20-20) and shade the plants lightly.

Dendrobium

This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

Lemboglossum bictoniense

Both *Lemboglossum* (syn. *Odontoglossum*) *bictoniense* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Lemboglossum bictoniense* is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: *sulphureum* (green with white lip), *album* (brown with white lip) and *roseum* (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in *Odcdm. Bittersweet* and *Odm. biros*) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for *odontoglossum* beginners and advanced alike.

Paphiopedilum

Standard, green-leaved paphiopedilums begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

Phalaenopsis

The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.

Rossioglossum grande

Once known as Odontoglossum grande, this is a spectacular orchid with six to eight flowers up to 8 inches across. Often known as the tiger orchid, it has bright golden yellow flowers heavily marked with chestnut brown barring. The plants are beautiful with a grey-green cast to the foliage, which is borne on succulent pseudobulbs. It prefers hot and wet summers with cooler, even down to 40 F, dry winters. Grow under filtered light. Watch for snails and slugs that eat the flowers, pseudobulbs and leaves.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay .

*****ANNOUNCING*****

FLORIDA NATIVE ORCHIDS FALL ORCHID SHOW & SALE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18th, 2009 - DAYBREAK to 4 P.M.

6820 2nd Street North, St. Petersburg FL 33702

HUGE ONE-DAY SALE! THOUSANDS OF PLANTS! RAIN OR SHINE!

CASH OR CHECKS ONLY, please!

We will be CLOSED from (Sun, Oct 11th to Sat, Oct 17th) to prepare for the sale

(DRIVING DIRECTIONS: From St. Petersburg: Take I-275 to 54th Ave N Exit. Go East to 1st St N. Go Left to 69th Ave N & then Left to 2nd St N (at end of block).

From Tampa: Take I-275 W across Howard Frankl in Bridge to 4th St N exit in St. Petersburg. Go S (Left) on 4th Str to 62nd Ave N, turn Left and then Left on 1st St N. Go to 69th Ave N, turn Left & take it to the end of the block (2nd St N).

Website: www.floridanativeorchids.com Email: bud.spence@knology.net

Contact Bud Spence at [727/527-2821](tel:7275272821) -. Plenty of street parking.

Presenting your Orchids

Ingrid Schmidt-Ostrander - Canadian Orchid Congress

Whenever you have a nice orchid flower, you may want to share its charm and beauty with your family, your friends and/or other orchid growers. You may want to take it to an Orchid Society meeting or bring it for a show display. In all cases, you want your treasure to look its best. After all, not many of us go out among friends (or strangers) in our dirty and possibly torn work clothes.

1 While a Phalaenopsis, Oncidium and Cattleya inflorescence (or others with multiple flowers per stem) is growing, start staking the flower stems carefully and gently. You don't want to make the stems grow stiffly upwards (although some orchids prefer to grow that way). You only want to bring the buds and flowers up from between the leaves for better viewing. A gently curving arch usually looks good. A basic suggestion is to have a stem grow vertical until the first flowers start, and then allow it to bend slightly. I like to leave Paphiopedilums alone until the day before showing. You may want to insert the supporting stake earlier but only tie up the flowers closely behind the ovary on the day you want to show them, so that they look straight at the viewer. Staking a plant for security during transport is different but these supports should be removed for display purposes.

2 Try to use unobtrusive looking stakes and ties and don't let them stick out or hang down to interfere with the flowers.

3 Each single flower stem (inflorescence) gets a separate stake (Lycaste or Paphiopedilum for instance.).

4 During the growth of the flower spike, do not turn the plant around but ensure that the light is always coming from the same direction. This keeps the inflorescence growing straight and won't twist the buds.

4 Clean the whole plant by gently washing the leaves (tops and bottoms), pseudobulbs and stems with warm soapy or detergent lukewarm water, and then rinse them with clear lukewarm water. At this time, you may be able to notice any little bugs and get rid of them. Do not get the flowers wet and dry out the leaf crowns (of Phalaenopsis mostly) by wiping them with some soft tissue paper.

It is not advisable to use plant shine products. Some growers wipe the tops of the leaves with milk to give them a soft shine.

Never spray the flowers with chemicals or even water, especially before showing, that treatment will damage the floral tissue.

Clean the pot as thoroughly as possible. It looks better when you can place the whole plant with its growing-pot inside a decorative container – make sure the container does not overpower the orchid.

Pull out all weeds that may have been growing in the pot.

Wash the label and make sure it is legible.

Put a label with your name discreetly somewhere inside the pot.

Remove all old flowers, all brown and yellow leaves and remove old, unproductive canes. You can even trim black or brown tips carefully with a sterile pair of scissors, trying to keep to the normal shape of the leaf.

It is a little risky to move freshly potted plants; they may not be securely settled into their new pots and have a tendency to fall over.

If you notice many black or whitish streaks on the leaves, especially the younger ones, better keep the plant away from others – it may be sick.

- For AOS judging, at least one third of the flowers on a plant should be open.
- Also for AOS judging, you must not completely remove flowers (even older ones). If they look aged, carefully cut the old flowers off (with a sterile tool) and place them on the growing mix, next to the plant. This will let the judges know that there was nothing wrong with the flower, excepting age...

Please, do remember that many people have never even seen an orchid flower close up, never mind having grown one. So don't be shy and do bring your flowering, nicely groomed plants for our show tables, enter them in a show and be proud of your own, very special orchid.

June Bloom Table



BLC Angkinantana x C Mark Jones
Presented by Bill Nunez



Miltonia spectabilis 'Emily' AM AOS
Displayed Jim and Emily Clarkson

Roll Out The Barrel

By Clarence S. Lindsten

I read of the experiments
Some growers made with beer,
And I was so intrigued with it,
I thought I'd try it here.
Now this decision that
I made was bigger than you think.
I hate to see it used on plants,
When it's so good to drink.
But I went out and bought a case
And put it on the shelf.
I figured if it didn't work,
I'd drink the rest myself.
I then proportioned some the way
Most others seem to do,
With forty parts of water,
To each part of 'sudsy brew'.
Although I haven't used it long,
I see a hopeful sign.
For all my seedlings have perked up;
They're really looking fine.
The moral is, that if you think
Your plants are feeling punk,
By all means get a case of beer,
And get them good and drunk.

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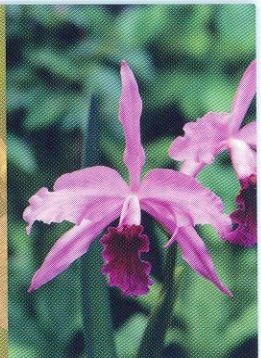
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