



Florida West Coast Orchid Society

Orchid News & Views

November 2011 Volume 9 No 11

Meeting Information

November 10, 2011

7:00 pm Educational Class: Chris Smith on growing Dendrobiums of the Phalaenopsis type
7:30 pm Featured Speaker: Louis Del Favero will be talking about species orchids.

Our speaker will be bringing orchids for sale

Remember: bring food and get a free raffle ticket!

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 \$20.00, each additional annual member in a household and not receiving a newsletter shall be \$15.00. Lifetime membership is \$200.00. If you wish to have a paper copy of the newsletter mailed to you rather than email, the cost is an additional \$10.00 per year. The actual cost to mail the twelve monthly newsletters is \$18.00 annually per subscription.

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The Florida West Coast Orchid Society (FWCOS) Meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at Pinellas County Extension Center, 12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo.

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Jennifer Upchurch, Editor

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Content must be received by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following months newsletter. Ads must be in high resolution (at print size) Picture format: .TIF, .GIF, .JPG or .PDF. Submit content via email, CD or USB flash drive.

President's Message

Hello all,

Now that the heat of summer has abated and we welcome the return of more comfortable temperatures we will be resuming our volunteer work days at the Botanical Gardens. I have confirmed with Jonathan Skinner, Volunteer Program Coordinator, a FWCOS work day on November 19th from 8 am to 12 noon.

Please check your schedules to see if you can help that day, lunch will be provided by Subway and all volunteers will be able to order a \$15 orchid of their choice from a vendor "To Be Announced". Leslie Belew will be in charge of ordering the plants and they will be delivered at the December or January meeting.

For those who don't know, a little history information; The society has a contract with the Botanical Gardens to provide 200 volunteer hours annually in exchange for our monthly meeting room at no charge. We have had such a great turnout from our members at the work days that we have already met the requirement for 2012 and only need 85 more hours to confirm our meeting room reservations through the year 2013. I will plan another work day in December and any hours done over and above the required 200 will go toward 2014.

Please let me know if you are able to help so I can put your name on the spread sheet.

Happy Growing,
Cheryl



From the Membership Chair...

I am pleased to welcome the following new members to FWCOS who joined at the October meeting or at the Show: Deborah LeMonde, Pat & Michael Kasum, Anne Brown, Michael Marshall, David Campagna, Ed Eakes, Linda Lowe and Monica Johlic. I hope you will find your membership in FWCOS to be rewarding.

Please stop by the membership table and get a free raffle ticket just for wearing a name tag or bringing food for the break. I have temporary name badges available for anyone who needs one and the engraved magnetic FWCOS badges that many of our members wear can be ordered for \$10. It's that time of year again, to renew your FWCOS membership. I will be accepting renewals for 2012 at the November meeting, the cost has stayed at \$20/year and \$15 for each additional member within the same household.

Thank you,
Tina.



About our Featured Speaker

Louis Del Favero's life long love affair with orchids began when he received a *Vanda Rothschildiana* (*V. coerulea* X *V. sanderiana*) from a family friend for his 12th birthday. A few years later, as a teen in 1968 he began working for Jungle Orchids after school, weekends and summers. Jungle Orchids imported tree fern and orchids from Guatemala. A year later, in 1969 he established Louis Del Favero Orchids in Miami. It was during those early years, when it was still legal to do so that Louis went on an orchid collecting expedition with Fred Fuchs to British Honduras (now Belize) and Honduras. That initial trip sparked a passionate desire in Louis to view orchids in their native habitat that triggered 20 years of traveling throughout Mexico, Central and South America and the Caribbean.

In 1981 Louis moved to his operation to the current location in rural Tampa where he used his extensive world wide contacts to continue importing specie orchids from their native countries. He and his wife Bonnie have more than 16,000 square feet of greenhouses open to the public of which approximately 50% are species, and the other half is comprised largely of compact to large flowered cattleyas with an emphasis on fragrant orchids.

Louis Del Favero Orchids is located at
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Specialties include warm growing specie *Cattleya*, *Encyclia*, *Gongora*, *Schomburgkia*, *Stanhopea*, *Vanda* and miniatures. Also a wide variety of *Tillandsia* & mounted orchids and exclusive bare-root species from Orquifollajes in Colombia.

Bloom Table Ribbons

October 13, 2011



Left: *Phalaenopsis Irene*
(*Neofinetia falcata* X *Phalaenopsis equestris*)
Grown by: Roy Finley



Above: *Cattleya bowringiana*
Grown by: Bill Nunez



Left: *Cattleya Mr. BoJangles*
(*C. Landfate 'Hot Lips'* X *C. schilleriana*)
Grown by: Jennifer Upchurch

Meetings and Events

November, 2011

November 2 at 7:00 pm; Orchid Society of West Pasco Show at Buena Vista Manor Clubhouse, 5112 Rosada Ave, Holiday. Contact: Greg Sytch; 727-841-9618, gsytch@cs.com.

November 7 at 7:30 pm; Sarasota Orchid Society at the Activity Center at Marie Selby Botanical Garden, Contact: Monroe Kokin; 941-586-7795, orchidpix@comcast.net.

November 10 at 7 pm; Florida West Coast Orchid Society at Pinellas County Cooperative Extension Center, 12520 Ulmerton Rd, Largo; 2nd Thursday of the month. Contact Cheryl Finke 727-420-7230, cfinke@tampabay.rr.com or visit <http://www.fwcoc.org>.

November 12 at 1:30 pm; AOS Judging at Harry P Leu Gardens, Palm Room, 1920 North Forest Avenue, Orlando. Contact Glen Brown; 352-735-2898.

November 12, 9am-12pm; FWCOS Members Plant Sale, 12350 Ridge Rd., Largo. Contact Corinne Arnold, 727-475-0750.

November 13-20, 20th World Orchid Conference at Marina Bay Sands, Singapore. For information contact: secretariat@20woc.com.sg.

November 16 at 7:30 pm; AOS Judging at Tampa Garden Center; 2929 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa;. Contact: Patty Cartwright; 813-989-9357, pjcartwright@earthlink.net or visit <http://www.aos.org>.

November 17 at 6:30 pm; Tampa Bay Orchid Society Meeting at Tampa Garden Club, 2629 Bayshore Blvd, Tampa. Contact Anne Boldrick; 813-876-8495, tampabayorchidsociety@verizon.net or visit <http://tampabayorchidsociety.shutterfly.com>

November 22, 9am-5pm; Tampa Orchid Club Field Trip to Myakka. Board bus at 8:40am at Northdale Recreation Center, 15550 Spring Pine Dr, Tampa, 33624. Contact Linda Roderick, 352-597-3736 or lmroderick@earthlink.net or visit www.tampaorchidclub.info (see ad page 11 for address)

November 22 at 7:30 pm; Ridge Orchid Society Meeting at Bartow Civic Center, 2250 S Floral Ave, Bartow. Contact Bill Byrd; 863-859-5060, <http://www.ridgeorchidsociety.org>.

MEMBER'S PLANT SALE!!

Scheduled for November 12, 2011

9 am –12 pm

12350 Ridge Rd. Largo 33774

Get some great deals on blooming and blooming size plants and divisions as well as potting supplies!

(For more information contact Corinne Arnold 727-475-0750)

Tampa Orchid Club has invited any interested FWCOS members to come along on their bus trip to Orchid Mania, Palmer 's and Florida Suncoast Orchids:



Tuesday, November 22, TOC Field Trip to Myakka

Join fellow orchid enthusiasts on an orchid buying spree!

Board bus at 8:40 AM Northdale Recreation Center (15550 Spring Pine Drive, Tampa 33624).

We will add a stop convenient to Florida West Orchid Society if interested.

9 AM Bus departs

10:30-12:30 *Orchid Mania*/ Shaded tables, drinks, cookies will be provided. Pack a bag lunch.

12:40-1:40 *Florida Suncoast Orchids*

1:55-3:15 *Palmer Orchids*

5 PM Return to Northdale Recreation Center.

Cost: \$23.00 per person (this includes tip for the driver). Deadline for payment is November 10.

Mail check (payable to TOC) to Linda Roderick, 7094 Patterson Dr. Weeki Wachee, FL 34607.

lmroderick@earthlink.net, 1 (352) 597 3736 if any questions.

The bus holds 32 passengers. The first 32 members or guests that send in the \$23.00 will be ensured a seat.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED!

The FWCOS Show and Sale, 'Orchid Safari' was a great success again this year, attendance was about the same as last year but with one less day and most of the vendors said they had higher sales than in recent years. The displays and vendor's booths were gorgeous and everyone had a great time.

Putting on the show takes a lot of work from a lot of people and we would like to thank all those who gave so generously of their time to volunteer. Tina Kendall and Marcia Swager put on a fantastic dinner for the judges Friday evening and Marcia and her husband John helped out with setting up the vendor and display tables Thursday night and took several shifts at the admission table on Saturday and Sunday. Brenda and Jim Miller, Bill Nunez, Gary Lehman, Ruth Cannon and Brett Ullery all helped with table set-up late Thursday night - we could not get access to the building until after 10:00 pm that night due to the regularly scheduled BINGO game. The same group all showed up again Friday morning to help with vendor and display set-up along with Marion Steele, Corinne and Paul Arnold, John White, Cheryl Finke, Deborah LeMonde, Walter Brittain, Stan Puc, & Leslie Belew. I'm sure there were many others that were not on the sign up sheet but just came to pitch in and we appreciate all of your help and apologize if we do not mention anyone by name.

Throughout the weekend lots of helpers took turns manning the various posts such as the admission, AOS membership/book sales, and expert tables: Marcia & John Swager, Cheryl Yoder, Jennifer Brady, Tiffanie Swigart, Eleanor Dohoney, Brenda Miller, Bill Nunez, Tina Kendall, Cheryl Finke, Debra Sanor, Deborah LeMonde, Roy Finley, Lee Soule, Rosemarie LaCourse, Karl Maier, Rick Rouchette, Terry & Richard Berube, Gary Lehman, Ruth Cannon and Brett Ullery all took shifts.

Laurie Nissen of June's Orchid Estate and TOC was the Head Judging Clerk again this year and was assisted by: Cheryl Finke, Ruth Cannon, Brett Ullery, Krystyna Hagmajer, Marcia & John Swager, Marion Steele, Debra Sanor, Brenda Miller, Gary Lehman, Bill Nunez and Corinne Arnold. Bill Nunez, Michael Polen and Cheryl Finke gave culture classes during the show and Emily Clarkson handled all the arrangements for AOS judging.

Marion Steele worked all day on Friday, helping to set up the FWCOS display that won a blue ribbon this year. The judges said that regardless of there being no other orchid society displays to compete against, they would not have awarded a blue ribbon if our display was not worthy. Ruth Cannon worked on the display as well, writing all of the plant labels and show entry forms. Thank you also to Corinne Arnold, Brett Ullery, Waler Brittain, Stan Puc and Leslie Belew for helping with the display and making sure all the plants got labeled and entered properly for judging. A special Thank You goes to those members who allowed us to use their prized orchids in our display, there sure were a lot of ribbons hanging on that display!

Leslie and Corinne would like to thank all those who volunteered with the potting booth. Ruth Cannon and Brett Ullery have helped all weekend for several years and are indispensable! Walter Brittain also has worked the entire weekend for several years and is never afraid to tackle the huge overgrown orchids. We appreciate the assistance of Larry Murray, Debra Sanor and Bill Nunez again this year and Terry and Richard Berube helped for the first time. We thank you all for making it a success and fun!! It is a great learning experience and hopefully we will get some new volunteers again next year!

From the Nominating Committee.....

Bill Nunez, as Nominating Committee Chairman, and his committee of Tina Kendall, Jennifer Upchurch, Corinne Arnold and Len Krysko have proposed a slate of officers for 2012. The membership will vote on this at the December meeting, and nominations can be made from the floor at that time. The proposed slate is as follows:

President Bill Nunez

1st VP Tina Kendall

2nd VP Ruth Cannon

3rd VP Len Krysko

Secretary Leslie Belew

Treasurer Chad Whetstone

Director Cheryl Finke

Trustees for 2012-2014: Brent Finke

Roy Finley

Trustee for 2010-2012: Brett Ullery to complete Tina Kendall's term

LET'S SUPPORT OUR VENDORS WHO DO SO MUCH FOR US

The vendors who lecture at our meetings take their valuable time and effort to educate us on orchid culture. In turn, they ask us to buy their plants which they bring to sell at our meetings. Likewise, the vendors who advertise here in our newsletter all donate orchids every year for the FWCOS auction, which is our main fundraiser.

Of particular note, two vendors recently went above and beyond to help FWCOS put on a successful show, neither of whom benefit from the show in any way. Karen Harper of Orchid Mania and Doug Chenneville of St Pete Orchid Farm both loaned us some of their valuable blooming orchids to put in our show display.

Additionally, Michael and Paula Polen of Artstone Orchids, being members of FWCOS assist every year on the show committee in the planning and implementation stages of putting on the show.

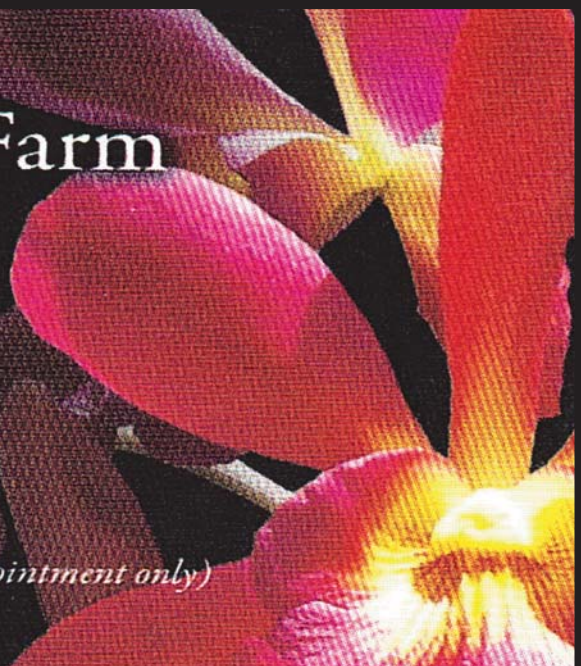
We know that there are lots of places to buy orchids in our area but as members of FWCOS, we should really make a point of patronizing the speakers, advertisers and vendors who go out of their way to support FWCOS when we buy new Plants.

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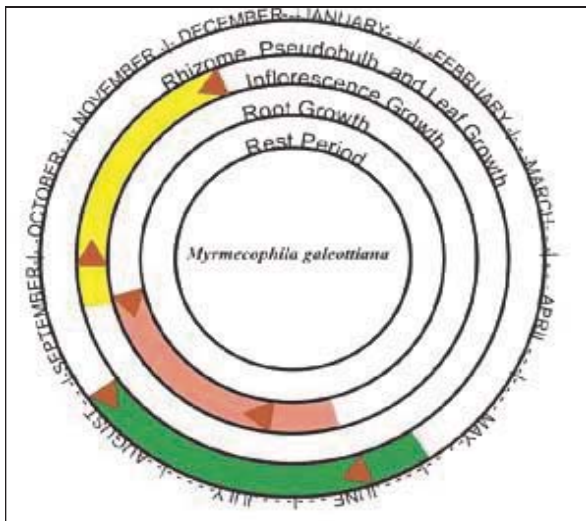
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941.322.1678

fax: 941.322.6468

THE ORCHID CLOCK

This article was written by T.J. Hartung and originally published in the January 2011 issue of "Orchids" magazine. This simple device makes it easy to keep track of your orchids annual growth cycles. There is a template that you can print and use to make your own clock on the next page.



Orchids have a cycle of life. The key to understanding the annual life cycle of a plant, and knowing how to respond to it, can be depicted visually as a clock.

Orchid growers know their plants will produce flowers at a certain time of year, and will grow new leaves and rhizomes at another. By charting these on a clock face, we can better respond to the needs of the plant in terms of fertilization, watering, etc.

Every species of orchid is different. Some orchids bloom in May and June, others flower in time for certain holidays. Some have blossoms that last for only a few days, while others last for months. Also, exact timing can depend on a number of factors, including the region of the world in which the plant lives.

This orchid clock should be duplicated for each species that you have. Here's how to chart a time cycle chart for every species in your collection. Begin by placing an arrow, pointing clockwise, at the time of year when a new inflorescence appears, and another arrow, pointing counterclockwise when the blooms fade. Place both arrows in the ring marked "Inflorescence Growth." Repeat this for the leaf growth ring and the root growth ring.

By seeing the times of the year when each of the significant growth patterns occur, we can now plan to fertilize our plants in a timely manner. To better visualize the fertilization patterns, I use three different colors of highlighter marker pens: green for growth, yellow for blooms and pink for roots.

Start the highlighted area of the ring two–four weeks before the beginning and continue it to almost the end of the particular growth pattern. (There may be some overlap in ring colors.)

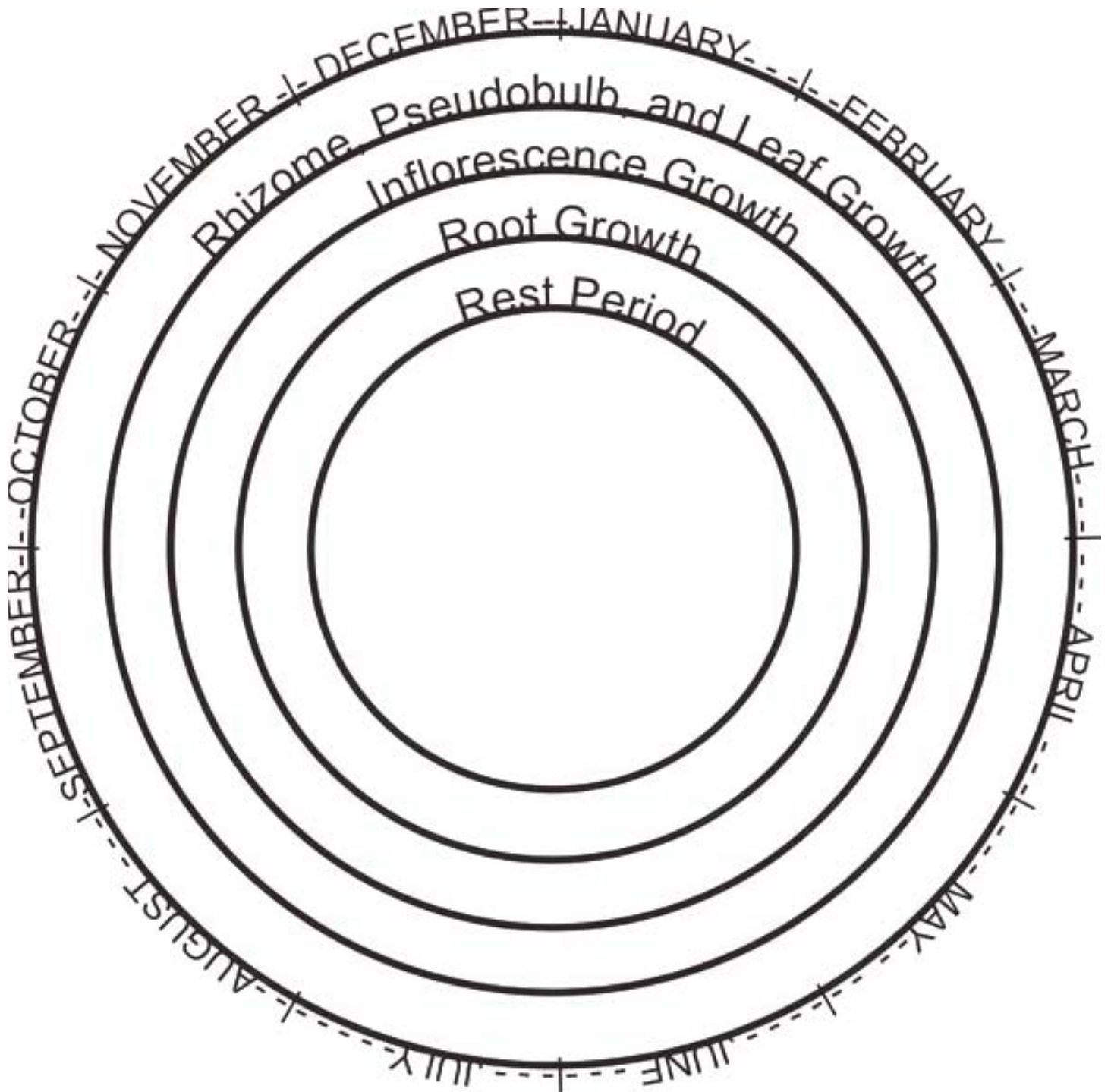
Fertilizers are identified with three numbers, which I refer to as "Shoots," "Fruits" an element needed for plant growth. The second number is phosphate (P2O5), a chemical shown to increase flowering (and fruiting). The third is potash (K2O), a chemical needed for root growth, overall plant health and stamina.

During the "green" time of year, I recommend a fertilizer that is 20-10-10. During the "yellow" time of year, consider a 10-20-10 fertilizer. The "pink" season calls for a 20-20-20 fertilizer. Any similar fertilizer formulas should be sufficient. The last ring — entitled "Rest Period" — is when your plant needs to rest and muster its strength for the next year's growth. During Rest Period, fertilize and water sparingly.

By looking at your orchid clock (and a calendar) you can now easily see what kind of fertilizer each species of orchid in your collection needs. The colors of the highlighter pens were chosen because they approximate the color of the fertilizer I use.

T.J. Hartung is president of the Vallarta Orchid Society (www.pvorchids.com) in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. He is also on the board of directors of the Vallarta Botanical Gardens (www.vallartabotanicalgardens.org). Puerto Vallarta, Mexico (e-mail tjhartung@gmail.com).

Orchid Clock template, print one for each species you have.





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by the second Friday of the month
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Mark the Date!!!

*FWCOS is Planning a Bus Trip to
The 2012 Jamiami International
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January 28, 2012

*\$40 per person includes driver's tip, entrance fee,
\$5 coupon to use at show and refreshments on the bus.
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8001 US Hwy 19 N. Pinellas Park*

*To sign up or for more information contact
Corinne Arnold 727-475-0750.*

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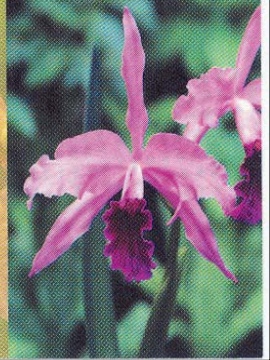
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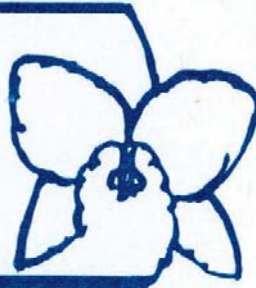
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