



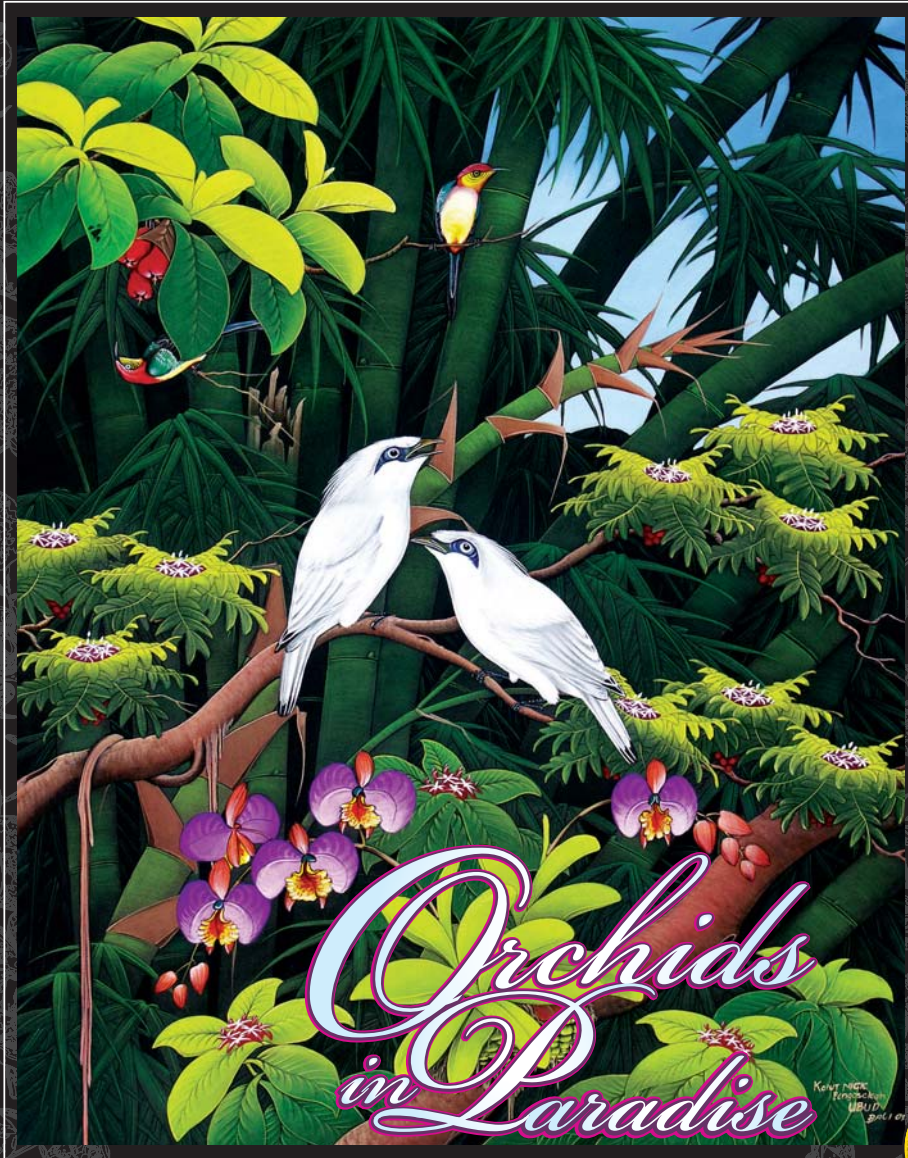
The Orchidist

February 2007 - Volume 4 - Number 2

Published by the South Florida Orchid Society

6th MIAMI INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW[®]

PRESENTED BY
THE SOUTH FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY



MARCH 2 - 4, 2007
SHERATON MIAMI MART CONVENTION CENTER
711 NW 72nd AVENUE



The 62nd Miami International Orchid Show Premier Party

March 1, 2007

7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Sheraton Miami Mart Hotel & Convention Center

711 N.W. 72 Ave., Miami

Please join us for the Premier Party for the 62nd Miami International Orchid Show. This is the first time the sales marts will be open and the first time the public will have a chance to see who won prestigious awards. Tickets for the evening are \$50.00 and can be purchased in **advance only** from the SFOS office. **No tickets will be sold at the door. The deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, February 23, 2007.**

The menu for the evening will include:

International and Domestic Cheese Display with French bread and Crackers

Marinated grilled vegetables display with balsamic vinaigrette

From the carving station: Steam ship round of beef with Dollar medallions, horseradish and Au Jus sauce, Roasted Tom Turkey with Orange Cranberry Relish

Oriental Station: Oriental Stir Fry, Beef and chicken and vegetables with garlic, ginger and soy sauce. Vegetable fried rice and Fortune cookies

Pasta station: Tortellini and Penne pasta served with Alfredo sauce and Marinara sauce. Garlic Bread sticks and parmesan cheese.

Fajita Bar: Grilled Beef and Chicken, sweet peppers and onions served with soft flour tortillas, sour cream and fresh salsas, shredded cheese, shredded lettuce, guacamole

Dessert: Chef's selection of assorted mini desserts and sliced fresh fruits with honey yogurt dressing. Fresh brewed coffee, tea and decaffeinated coffee. Soft drinks are included with reception food items. There will be a cash bar.

Tickets for the evening are \$50.00 and must be purchased in advance. No tickets will be sold at the door. The deadline to purchase tickets is Friday, February 23, 2007

2007 Premier Party Ticket Order Form:

_____ Premiere Party Tickets @ \$50.00 each

_____ Total Enclosed

Please mail tickets to:

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

The 2007 Show Program

Dear Fellow Orchidist:

The South Florida Orchid Society will once again produce the largest all orchid Show in the Country. The 62nd Miami International Orchid Show will take place from March 2-4, 2007 at the Sheraton Miami Mart Hotel. The 2007 Show Program will be given to everyone as they enter the Show. The 2007 Show Program will contain articles on orchid growing, a list of exhibitors and vendors, as well as a map of their locations at the Show. This informative program will not only be referred to by people attending the Show, but it will also be something people will want to keep as a reference long after the Show is over. We are hoping your Society will want to advertise in our Show Program as a way to attract new members to your Society. Advertising rates for the Show Program are:

Prices for 2007 Show Program

Back Cover Full Page (Color) 4 1/2" x 7 1/2"	\$700.00
Inside Front Cover (Color or Black & White) 4 1/2" x 7 1/2"	\$500.00
Inside Back Cover (Color or Black & White) 4 1/2" x 7 1/2"	\$500.00
Full Page (Black & White only) 4 1/2" x 7 1/2"	\$400.00
1/2 Page Ad (Black & White only) 3 3/4" x 4 3/4"	\$250.00
1/4 Page Ad or Business Card Size (Black & White only)	\$150.00

In addition to the ads we are also offering a Booster Page this year. The cost for one line on the Booster Page is \$20.00. Any individual can sponsor a line on the Booster Page of the Show Program. The deadline for ads and sponsorships is February 14th. Please send your ad or sponsorship to:

South Florida Orchid Society
10801 SW 124 St.
Miami, FL 33176

Thank you for your continued support of South Florida Orchid Society

Sincerely,
Carol De Biase
Chairperson of Publications

MIAMI SHOW NEWS

By the time this newsletter reaches you all the planning and preparations for the 62nd Miami International Orchid Show will have been completed. What remains are the "finishing touches" which are provided by you the members. Your committee chairmen need your help by you volunteering your time to help in manning the box office, security details, hospitality etc. Help is needed in the cake contest and setting up the photography contest. There are numerous opportunities for you to enhance your orchid experience as a society member. An invaluable aid that you can provide is to help promote the show is by word of mouth. This is our second venue move in as many years. It is essential that we continue to inform the entire orchid community of our new location at the Miami Sheraton Merchandise Mart. In addition to our advertising we need your help in telling your family, friends, neighbors and all interested parties of our new location. With this help we will surely make the Miami International Orchid Show the success we have been accustomed to. See you at the show.

Warmest regards,

Richard Brandon
Show Chairman



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President's Message

Dear fellow orchidists,

I know everyone enjoyed Alex Maximiano's program last month. I heard it was great and that we had a great audience, too. I'm sorry I missed it, but as you know I was working on my award-winning display at the fabulous Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Show.

That show was the first major event of the orchid year in South Florida and, of course, the next major event will be our very own 62nd Miami International Orchid Show at the conveniently located Sheraton Miami Mart Hotel. This is going to be a wonderful show!

I encourage all of you to volunteer. You can sign up at this meeting to assist in the box office, with security, or in the hospitality booth. Also don't forget to sell you pre-sale tickets!! Ellen has plenty more when you run out.

At the meeting you will also be able to purchase tickets for the fabulous premiere party that will be held on Thursday evening. The show opening will be spectacular and Richard Brandon, our show chairman, has a wonderful and delicious menu planned.

The Miami International Orchid Show is the "granddaddy" of all the shows in the country and this one promises to be the best ever!

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

Sincerely,

Robert Fuchs
President



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February Program:

"I Never Met an Equitant I Didn't Like"

presented by Katie Caldwell

This month, we will be privileged to learn from one of the best growers of equitant oncidiums I've ever known, Katie Caldwell, of Florida's west coast.

Katie Caldwell has been growing orchids for over twenty years. Since 1998 she has been living on the island of Boca Grande where she grows her orchids in a shade house and a lanai with roughly 1000 sq ft of growing area. Primarily Katie's orchid growing talents are focused on Vandas, Tolumnias, and their hybrids.

Currently Vice President and Program Chairman for the Venice Area Orchid Society, Katie is also Past VP of the West Coast Orchid Society and a member of the American Orchid Society.

In her presentation to us, Katie will give a brief background of the genus, Tolumnia, and the species used in breeding equitant oncidiums. She will bring examples to demonstrate her various growing methods, containers, media, etc. and will tell us all about her culture methods. This will be a hands on program, so be sure to bring your questions. Katie's equitants are truly beautifully cultured, so be there to take advantage of this opportunity to learn her secrets.

The plant table for this month will be provided by R. F. Orchids, with contributions from Katie Caldwell.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Michael Coronado
Program Chairman

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MIAMI, FL. – Held once every three years in a different international location, the World Orchid Conference® is the biggest and most influential gathering of orchid enthusiasts, growers, hybridizers, and scientists from across the globe. In conjunction with the conference’s return to Miami in 2008, the South Florida Orchid Society and the Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society, co-hosts of the event, have announced sponsorship packages tailored for corporations, orchid societies and individuals who want to become actively involved in this worldwide orchid extravaganza.

Ranging from the \$100,000 “Diamond” title sponsorship to a \$250 “Trophy” sponsorship, the packages are designed to appeal to a wide cross-section of companies and orchid enthusiasts, according to Robert Fuchs, co-chairman of the 19th World Orchid Conference®. Sponsorship benefits include a range of incentives and exposure opportunities for the community at large as well as for the 100,000 anticipated conference goers expected to attend the five-day event. And because the 19th World Orchid Conference® is a 501(c) 3 corporation, there may be additional tax advantages to becoming a sponsor, Fuchs added.

“The eyes and pocketbooks of orchid enthusiasts from around the world will be in Miami for this significant event,” Fuchs said. “Sponsorships offer an incredible opportunity for branded exposure in front of this influential and affluent community.”

19th World Orchid Conference® sponsorships include varying combinations that feature: orchid show tickets, educational conference series tickets, gala tickets, on-site display booths, on-site signage, and community wide advertising and promotional packages. Among the sponsorships available are:

- Trophy sponsorship -- \$250
- Individual sponsorship -- \$500 and \$1,000
- Orchid Society sponsorship -- \$1,000
- “Amethyst” sponsorship -- \$5,000
- “Sapphire” sponsorship -- \$10,000
- “Emerald” sponsorship -- \$25,000
- “Ruby” sponsorship -- \$50,000
- “Diamond” sponsorship -- \$100,000

For a complete list of sponsorship opportunities and benefits, visit the 19th World Orchid Conference® website at www.19WOC.com or contact the conference’s executive director at director@19woc.com or (786) 62-19WOC.

About the 19th World Orchid Conference®

- WHEN:** January 23 - 27, 2008
10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday
10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday
- WHERE:** Sheraton Miami Mart Hotel & Convention Center
711 N.W. 72nd Avenue, Miami, FL
(Immediately south of Miami International Airport)
- THEME:** “Orchids – Nature’s Masterpiece®”
- CO-HOSTED BY:** South Florida Orchid Society, Inc., and Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society, Inc.


Conference and Registration Information: www.19woc.com

IN MEMORY

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of Joe Phillips

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Masdevallia & Dracula

Masdevallia, a genus of some 350 species usually from cool, misty mountains of the New World tropics, is known for its showy flowers with sepals striking in their size, shape, and/ or color. Their need for a cool, damp environment makes them an excellent choice for cool, coastal climates.

LIGHT levels for this group usually are thought of as fairly low; however, some successful growers believe that the best flowerings are produced under higher light levels. Plants can be grown, but not necessarily flowered, in the same light levels as those for ferns -- 400 to 1,000 foot-candles. Most growers maintain levels adequate for Phalaenopsis and Paphiopedilum -- 1000 to 1,500 foot-candles. Masdevallias can be kept in light intensities up to 2,500 foot-candles if the growing area can be kept cool. Plants grow well under four-tube fluorescent fixtures and can be summered outside in shade.

TEMPERATURES should be cool to intermediate; plants will grow slowly and eventually expire if temperatures remain high for long periods of time. Cool evenings help reduce heat stress during the day. Nights of 50 to 55 degrees F are ideal; day temperatures should be 60 to 75 degrees F. Evaporative cooling pads or humidifiers are useful in maintaining these conditions.

Continued on next column

WATER is critical for these plants because they have minimal water storage tissue. Roots should be allowed to become just dry before watering again if drainage is adequate, constantly moist roots is fine.

HUMIDITY is important for these plants. The ideal range is 60% to 80%. In the home, mist the plants (in the morning only) and set the plants on trays of gravel, partially filled with water. In the greenhouse or enclosed growing area, humidity can be increased by misting or wetting down the floors, while evaporative coolers help raise humidity and lower temperatures. If plants are summered outdoors, automatic misters under the benches are recommended.

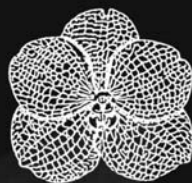
FERTILIZER should be applied regularly while plants are actively growing. Applications of 30-10-10 type formulations twice a month are ideal for plants in a bark-based medium. A 20-20-20 type formulation should be used for plants in other media. If weather is dull, applications once a month are sufficient. Some growers use high phosphorus, 10-30-20 type formulation (bloom booster) as plants approach flowering.

POTTING is best done in the winter or early spring, before the heat of summer and/or as new roots is produced. Plants must be repotted frequently, every one to two years, to keep the potting mix from decomposing. A fine-grade potting medium, such as fine fir bark or tree fern fiber, is often used with plastic pots. Sphagnum

Continued on page 7

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moss is also used, especially for establishing plants. The bottom one quarter to one third of the pot should be filled with drainage material, either broken crock, rocks or Styrofoam "peanuts." The plant should be positioned in the pot so that the newest growth is farthest from the edge of the pot, allowing the maximum number of new growths without crowding the pot. Plants growing in many directions may be positioned in the center of the pot. Spread the roots over a cone of potting medium and fill in around the roots with potting medium to the junction of the roots and the plant. Firm the medium around the roots by applying pressure. Keep humidity high and the potting medium slightly dry until new roots form. A vitamin B1 compound may help establish newly potted plants. Prepared by: Education Committee, American Orchid Society, 6000 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33405 (407) 585-8666.

BARKERIA CULTURE

Philip C. Tomlinson © 1998

THE GENUS BARKERIA

The genus *Barkeria* is a small one, both as the size of the genus, and the general size of the plants their bright attractive flowers produced from small plants makes them desirable additions to most connoisseur's collections, or just for anyone who enjoys attractive flowers.

Out of growth the plants just look like a clump of dry twigs, but in the spring new growths are produced which develop during the warm moist summers finally producing flowers in the autumn and early winter. The final period is dryer, and the winters are very dry, when the plants lose their leaves, and are dormant. They naturally grow on small shrubs, and on small branches of trees, with their roots freely exposed to moving air. Therefore a very open compost must be used, which will require heavy watering during the spring and summer, but which can be kept dry during the later autumn and winter while the plants enter their period of natural dormancy.

The main *Barkeria* species are *barkeri*ola, *chinensis*, *dorotheae*, *halbingeri*, *lindleyana*, *malanocaulon*, *naevosa*, *palmeri*, *scandens*, *schoemakeri*, *skinneri*, *spectabilis*, *strophinx* and *uniflora*. The commonly cultivated species are *skinneri* and *lindleyana*.

The species mostly come from the Lowland Rainforest and Monsoonal Foothill Mountain habitats, and information on these habitats can be usefully referred to.

CULTURE

The culture of *Barkeria* is exceedingly difficult for the unwary. However it is very simple if you are fully aware of their needs. As noted above they naturally grow on scrub brush or on rocks. Any plant crammed into a pot in almost any kind of compost rarely survives a second year.

They should be grown in pots with large drainage holes, utilizing large sized media. Large pieces of charcoal bark and/or tree fern is suitable. Plants need to be heavily wa-

Continued on next column

tered when in active growth, from the time the new growths appear in the spring to the point of flowering in the early autumn, and kept in a warm situation. From flowering it should be moved to a dry cooler situation, During the winter months only mist occasionally, and plants should not be watered as such. Over the period of dormancy it can take cooler conditions. Good light levels should be maintained, and intermediate conditions during growth are appropriate. Some growers recommend mounting on cork or firm tree fern slabs.



Barkeria skinneri

These plants have a habit of trying to push themselves up out of the pot and form new roots well above the potting medium. When repotting in the spring, these roots can be covered. There will be a new growth with more roots further up on the pseudobulb and some of these roots too can be covered when repotting but care must be taken to keep the new growth itself above the potting medium to avoid rotting. As with all aerial roots it is beneficial to spray them regularly.

Barkerias have a large wandering root system and are often grown on a slab although some experts advocate the use of small pots or pans.



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BLACK ORCHIDS!

DO THEY REALLY EXIST?!

For hundreds of years hybridizers have been trying to produce "black" flowers. Tulips, roses, hollyhocks, gladiolus, canna lilies, and yes, even black corn and radishes. So it is no wonder that orchids are also on the list. What is it about a "black" flower that tends to intrigue us?

For years there have been many strange and mysterious stories about black orchids. They have been written about in witchcraft, mysteries, legends, comics, myths, and elsewhere. Are there really orchids that are black?



I think that will depend on what you consider "black." Can a deep purple color, dark as night be considered black? Many orchids are called "black" because they may have black bars, lips, or petals on them.

Liparis nervosa is called "black orchid" in Japanese, but as you can see by the photo of *Liparis* it is really not black. If you have read the book "Orchid Thief" by Susan Orlean you may have read where she claims that there are no black orchids.

Florafest Orchids hybridized *Dendrobium fuliginosa* "Black Pam" some of the seedlings were very dark. *Miltonioides leucomelas* (Reichenbach f.) is another species with black petals. The sepals have a white tip.

There are many orchids with black stripes, bars or markings such as *Coelogyne pandurata* and *Oncidium henckenii*. Both of these are often called "The Black Orchid." *Oncidium henckenii* is a very strange looking, but a lovely orchid. Notice how black the lip is with just a touch of yellow on the tip.

Dracula vampira and *Dracula roezlii* both have jet-black markings. I believe the *Paphiopedilum* hybrids have the most orchids that are reaching the black stage. Here are just a few hybrids that I think you will enjoy viewing.

* *Paphiopedilum Maudiae* 'Prieta' This is one of my own orchids. The dark wine color is almost black and, with certain lighting, it looks black. *Paph. Maudiae* has been used extensively for breeding dark purple and black/maroon *Paphs*.

* *Paphiopedilum Makuli* "Candor Blackheart" AM/AOS (*Maudiae* x *sukhakulii*)

* *Paphiopedilum Black Velvet* "Candor Neat" HCC/AOS

* *Paphiopedilum Maudiae* "Florafest's Queen" AD AOC-QOS

When you see a black orchid and want to purchase one of the seedlings, be aware that just because the parents and the plant you saw was black, does not mean the seedling that you purchased will be black as well. Hybrids are not always the same at the parent plant when grown from seed, an example of this is *Paphiopedilum* Jeff LaPoint. This photo is a beautiful black, but all of the seeds of P. Jeff Lapoint going to look like this? NO! Take a look at this group photo of several plants, these are all P. Jeff LaPoint hybrids.

Continued on next column

I know you are all waiting for a Black *Cattleya* or a *Vanda*, so I went on a search to see if there was such a thing. The *Laeliocattleya* LC. Mem. Robert Strait "Blue Hawaii" is breath taking! It has the darkest lip I have seen on an orchid. A couple of my very favorite black orchids are *Vandas*. *Vanda* David Gardner '#1' and *Vanda* Motes Imperial 'Louise' have veins in the petals that are black/brown. These two look like they belong in a Halloween theme somewhere.

Here is just a few more that I found for your enjoyment. All of these have the nickname "Black Orchid." Are they really black? You decide.

* *Cymbidiella humblotii*

* *Epigeneium amplum* (Lindl.) Summerh. Nickname "Black tongued orchid"

* *Bulbophyllum* sp. aff. *masdevillarum*

* *Bulbophyllum* sp.

* *Bulbophyllum hirundinis* (Gagnep.) Seidenf.

* *Bulbophyllum bouquettae* F.M.

* *Miltonia* Earl Dunn (Goodale Moir 'Golden Wonder' X *Minas Gerais*)

Are there "Black Orchids?" After doing the research for this article, I have to say yes! Is there one single orchid that holds the title "The Black Orchid?" I don't think so. I do believe that before long, the hybridizers will succeed in creating a totally black orchid. Will you, the public like it? Will you accept it? That is something we will have to wait and see. *From Lind'a Orchid Pages 1996-2007*

ORCHID LIMERICKS


By Carmen Coll

A lady who owned an estate,
Thought roses were red and just great,
Till a gook-looking guy
Her an orchid did buy
And then took her out on a date.

To the greenhouse went naughty boy Sonny,
Switched labels and thought it was funny,
Till his father he slapped him
When he finally trapped him
Without stopping, for no love or money.

Roses are red and violets are blue,
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Ribbon Winners of the January 17, 2007 Meeting

Judges Present

Richard Brandon, Carol De Biase, George Heider, Julie Rosenberg, Alex Maximiano, Maria Wood

Blue Ribbon Winners

Den. peguanum	Julie Rosenberg
Den. Super Ise	Armando Silva
Bulb. longifolium	Dave & Valerie Foster
Ascda Motes Flamboyant 'Mary Motes'	AM/AOS Betty Eber
C. Brenda Blue 'Fantasy'	Lore Wigley
Blc. Chia Lin 'New City'	Lore Wigley
Blc. Pamela Hetherington 'Coronation'	Lore Wigley
Bc Island Charm	Georgia Tasker & Sandy Schultz
Lc. Excellency 'Orchidglade'	Lore Wigley
Tolu. Passionata Red 'Galaxy'	Bill Harward
Paph. Paul Parks 'Kiaora'	Georgia Tasker & Sandy Schultz
Onc. John Louis Shirrah	Dave & Valerie Foster

Red Ribbon Winners

Den. Super Ise	Dave & Valerie Foster
Enc. cordigera 'Red'	Patrick Gonzalez
C. Labiata concolor	Patrick Gonzalez
Phrag Birds Delight	Leigh Elliot
Paph. Prim-n-Proper	Paul Korel
Paph. Shireen	Georgia Tasker & Sandy Schultz
Paph. Starry Sky 'Pisgah Forest'	Georgia Tasker & Sandy Schultz
Paph. Brandon Alexander	Georgia Tasker & Sandy Schultz

White Ribbon Winners

Phal. amabilis var. variegated	Eric Gottlieb
Ctna. Why Not	Alessandra Henderson
Lc. Betty Ford 'York'	Patrick Gonzalez

TIPS FOR GETTING YOUR PLANTS READY FOR SHOWS

Orchid shows give us a wonderful opportunity to look at and sometimes help set up beautiful displays. Shows also give us an opportunity to see plants in bloom we are not familiar with, to socialize with out orchid growing friends, and of course to shop. Exhibits and shows give us another wonderful opportunity; to show off those beautiful plants we have been nurturing all year. It is an exciting feeling to receive a ribbon or a trophy on one of your plants. Once the plants are in bud, try not to move the light source, or change the plants direction to the light, at this causes some of the flowers to turn. Some inflorescences need to be gently staked early, so they grow upright and arc gracefully.

When staking a plant, be as inconspicuous as possible.

Pull off any dead sheathing and dead leaves.

Leaves can be cleaned with a rag dampened with milk, lemon juice or beer. When cleaning pay particular attention to any insects. If you find bugs, spray the plants with a soap solution to clean the plant and kill the uninvited guests. By doing this step early, you will have a second chance to treat the plants again.

Take off pot hanger when warranted.

Take plants out of decorative pots or baskets.

Place your name and phone number along with the name and cross of the plant on a mailing label secured with tape towards the bottom of plant or basket.

Pack plants securely in a box. Newspaper can help keep plants from sliding.

Make a list of your plants and give one to the person whose house you will be picking your plants up and keep one for yourself.

Plants tend to dry out at shows, so water and drain them well before you box them.

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SFOS Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, February 21, 2007

Fire Fighters Memorial Building
8000 N.W. 21st Street
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- 7:30 pm - Registration & Judging of Plants
- 7:45 pm - Announcements
- 8:00 pm - Program
- 8:45 pm - Refreshments
- 9:00 pm - Awarded Plants Discussed
- 9:15 pm - Raffle



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