

May 2015

# FLAMINGO GARDENS ORCHID SOCIETY

AFFILIATED WITH AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY  
& FLAMINGO GARDENS



## *President's Message*

Thank you to all who came to our Auction. We had a good turn out and found new homes for over 100 orchids. The money that is raised from the Auction is used to help cover the cost of our monthly speakers. We have a great group of volunteers and vendors who made this event happen. Thank you all for your efforts.

Tis' the Season for Repotting your Orchids! Have you taken this task on yet? There have been two articles that might be of interest to you in the AOS Orchids magazine. The April issue has an article about repotting new plants you are adding to your collection or plants that have outgrown the pot or the medium has deteriorated. The May issue has an article about selecting a pot for your orchids, do you want to use a basket, a clay pot, or a plastic pot and do you know why? Good information every month. With your membership to the American Orchid Society you receive this magazine monthly.

The Redland International Orchid Festival is coming up May 15 -17th! We all look forward to this one as it is your last chance for a show until next fall. If you have never been to this show it is worth the trip. Hopefully this beautiful weather will still be around. This is an outdoor event so be prepared with sunscreen and a hat.

We are looking at the calendar for summer and think it is time to start thinking about our slate of officers for next year. Shirley Decker has been the First Vice President for many years and is ready to pass this position onto another board member. Shirley has done a fabulous job filling our calendar with speakers who have given us great information and demonstrations. You are invited to come to a board meeting to see if you would enjoy this. Most new board members begin as a Trustee to learn what we do. We have a great group of people who have worked as a team for FGOS to be a success. If you have any questions ask another board member or you can always give me a call. Please give this serious consideration, we need you!

See you at the May meeting and learn how to take great pictures of your blooming beauties!

*Jan*

## Tom Kuligowski Speaks on Creating Better Images of Your Orchids

Tom Kuligowski began his photographic career in 1969. In conjunction with an art background he viewed things quite differently and realized there was an innate sense of photographic vision. In the early 1990's, Tom started photographing a neighbors orchids; documenting the progression of growth and the phenomenal blooms that graced the mature plants. It wasn't long after that he started building his own collection. Throughout the years he has incorporated his artistic abilities with various mediums combining his photographic skills creating numerous works depicting the orchids he has bloomed.

"You don't necessarily need a vast wealth of knowledge to capture images of your orchids. Many of today's cameras can do the thinking for you." With this in mind, Tom teaches members of the societies he speaks at to take better pictures of their own collections. Whether using a smartphone, point and shoot or digital single lens reflex camera; everyone can improve their images. So many people want to share the blooms they nurture on social media sights such as Facebook or Instagram. Tom will show you a few simple techniques to create images that will make you proud of the collections we are so passionate about.

To view Tom's photography, his [Angraecums...](#) site contains many beautiful examples of his work.

## Shirley's Corner

Hi Folks!

I want to thank all the members that volunteered to help with the Annual Auction and the Flamingo Gardens Orchid Show. They were both a huge success. I am sorry I missed the Show this year but I appreciate the work that you all did to make it successful.

The Redlands Show is coming up this month on May 16<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) the Miramar Orchid Society will be going down to the Redlands on a chartered bus as they do every year. If you are interested in going, please contact Frank Crabb, President at 954-989-7741. The cost is \$20.00 per person and includes entrance fee, plus a coupon for \$5.00 off the price of an orchid at any vendor. The bus will leave at 8:00 AM from Taft Street Baptist Church and return around 4:00 PM. Frank will hold a raffle on plants he collects from the vendors on the bus as we return to the church parking lot. My husband and I go every year and it has always been a fun day. If you should feel tired of shopping you can return your purchases to the bus storage area and relax in the air conditioned comfort of the bus.

Now I thought I would give you a few tips on potting medium for all those new plants you will be purchasing at the show. Even though I am big on putting most orchids on mounts and trees, I know a lot of you still like to contain your roots in a nice clay pot. For South Florida we have to realize that our humidity and rainy conditions are not conducive to sphagnum moss or bark, these break down too easily and lead to root rot. The best mixture I have found is charcoal, gravel or sponge rock, and lava rock or expanded clay pellets. Also tree fern fibers would be great to add to that mix. You want to keep your mixture open and airy so the roots will find a way through the mix and not be compacted. When I use open wire baskets I first line the basket with coconut fibers so the mixture does not fall out. All of these products you will find at Broward Orchid Supply, who will also have a booth at the Redlands Show. The added advantage is that this mix will last for years in your pots and save you a lot of time and money in the long run.

I am writing this from Arcadia, I just came back from the community dumpster to get rid of some trash with my little dachshund Daisy Mae in our golf cart, I had an encounter with a huge raccoon that was hiding in the dumpster, it was a standoff I didn't bother him and he left me alone! I love this place, the wildlife is fascinating!

Enjoy your orchids!!

Shirley

## AND THE WINNERS ARE...

The Orchid Show brought many orchids growers, both professional and hobbyist, in to have their plants judged by AOS, Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society, and by the many visitors to the show with the People's Choice Award. Here are our FGOS members who are winners.

### AOS AWARD

Lucy Matos-Lodato received an AOS HCC (Highly Commended Certificate) for her *Aerangis luteo-alba* var. *Rhodestica* 'Maria Lusía'



### FGOS AWARD

Sandi Block-Brezner received the First Place Hobbyist Award for her *Kyoguchi* 'M. Sarino'.



### PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Bill Hodnett received the most votes for the People's Choice Award, winning \$50 cash prize. Unfortunately, we don't have a picture of his entry at this time.

Congratulations to Lucy, Sandi, and Bill. Just goes to show that all your effort and loving care of your orchids can bring enjoyment to others and recognition well deserving!

Thank you to all members who brought in their orchids for judging.

## Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

The Annual Auction takes a lot of coordination and there are many, many tasks that take place before and during our Auction.

Board members are securing plants from vendors, picking them up, and then setting them up for the auction preview.

During the auction, not only is the auctioneer actively working, but he is surrounded by people choosing the next item, reading the name, parading the plant for all to see and then delivering it to the highest bidder. At the same time, there are members recording every bid, and then confirming each purchase with you.

In the end, there is the check-out table where there are folks to make it as easy as possible to pay for your orchids.

There are normal meeting tasks that still need attending to also, such as the Welcome table and the Hospitality table.

All of these functions were tended to by our members, not just board members.

A special shout out to members who helped out during the Annual Auction:

<b>Pilar Schreidell</b>	<b>Yeni Logan</b>	<b>Gerhard Conrad</b>
<b>Kristi Davis</b>	<b>Shirley Decker</b>	<b>Marcy Schwartz</b>
<b>Lucy Matos-Lodato</b>	<b>Mike Vaupel</b>	<b>Mary Lathrop</b>
<b>Sandi Block-Brezner</b>	<b>Bill Hodnett</b>	<b>Cori Glick</b>

A very special 'Thank You' to our auctioneer, **Peter Stevens**. Peter kept things moving, auctioned with vigor and humor, and was simply amazing!

We also want to thank all of you who brought in snacks for the evening; thank goodness we didn't starve to death while bidding for plants!

Let's not forget! The following members donated some of the auction items.

<b>Bill Hodnett</b>	<b>Sally and Frank Tastinger</b>
<b>Sandi Block-Brezner</b>	<b>Jan Lowenthal</b>

And last but not least, let's all thank our President, **Jan Amador** for all her hard work, leadership, and dedication to making the Annual Auction a hit!

This is what volunteering is all about. This is what makes **Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society** the **Best Orchid Society EVER!**

If we missed anyone, please forgive us, we do appreciate your help too!

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Cattleya Symposium**

**Co-sponsored by:**  
 University of Florida Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences  
 St. Lucie County IFAS Extension Service  
 American Orchid Society  
 Odom's Orchids, Inc.

  
 American Orchid Society  
 Education. Conservation. Research.

**2015 Speakers**  
 Jeff Bradley/Texas  
 Gene Crocker/South Carolina  
 Keith Davis/North Carolina  
 Makoto Hanajima/Japan  
 Armando Mantellini/Florida  
 Dr. Aaron Palmateer, Ph.D/Florida  
 Ed Skvarch/Florida  
 Alek Zaslowski/Brazil

**Friday August 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup>**  
 Indian River Research and Education Center  
 2199 South Rock Road  
 Fort Pierce, FL 34945

**Host Hotel:** Holiday Inn Express & Suites 772-464-5000  
**Participating Hotels:** Fairfield Inn & Suites 772-462-2900  
 Hampton Inn 772-828-4100  
 Comfort Inn 772-409-1420  
 Best Western 772-409-1740

Photos: Greg Allikas and Steven Herman

Register online at [www.odoms.com](http://www.odoms.com) or email [odomsorchids@comcast.net](mailto:odomsorchids@comcast.net)

## FABULOUS FRIENDS FOREVER

Without our vendor friends who supply us with orchids for our auction (and many other occasions), we wouldn't have an auction. We have enjoyed getting to work with you and learn from you, but most of all, we really appreciate all you do to help make Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society a great society.

### Dan & Margie Orchids

Fantastic Ferns

Mac's Orchids

Quest Orchids

RF Orchids

Rio Orchids

## 2014-2015 Board of Directors

### President

Jan Amador  
[jbamador@bellsouth.net](mailto:jbamador@bellsouth.net)  
 954-347-2738

### First Vice President Programs

Shirley Decker

### Second Vice President Membership, Website, Newsletter

Debbie Brown

### Treasurer

Marcy Schwartz

### Recording Secretary

Sandi Block-Brezner

### Corresponding Secretary

Mike Vaupel

### Trustee – One Year

Mary Lathrop  
 Gerhard Conrad  
 Joan Viggiani

### Trustee – Two Year

Yeni Logan  
 Peter Stevens

### Email us at:

[flamingogardensorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:flamingogardensorchidsociety@gmail.com)  
[m](#)

### Find us on: [Facebook](#)

### Visit our Web site at:

[FlamingoGardensOrchidSociety.com](http://FlamingoGardensOrchidSociety.com)

### Board of Directors Meeting

The next Board Meeting will be held  
 May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

It will be held at Gerhard Conrad's house  
 7581 Raleigh St., Hollywood, FL  
 954 981-3414

Members are welcome to come and  
 observe and get a feel of what it's like to  
 volunteer as a Board Member.  
 Come join us!

## Upcoming Orchid Events

### Redland International Orchid Festival

May 15 – 17

Fruit & Spice Park  
 Homestead, FL

Miramar Orchid Society has extended an  
 invitation to FGOS members on their  
 annual chartered bus to ride down to the  
 Redlands for this show.

See Shirley's Corner for information and  
 contact Frank or Laurie Crabb for booking  
 and details.  
 954 989-7741

*Our May Birthday Babies*

<i>Sally Tastinger</i>	<i>May 7</i>
<i>Becky Middleton</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Bob Chase</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Patricia Donly</i>	<i>May 8</i>
<i>Bill Hodnett</i>	<i>May 10</i>
<i>Bridgette DeBonis</i>	<i>May 15</i>
<i>Adelaida Buser</i>	<i>May 24</i>
<i>Barbara Ladin</i>	<i>May 26</i>

If we missed your birthday, we wish you a very Happy Birthday! Please let us know so we can update our information.



*Happy Birthday to you  
Happy Birthday to you,  
Happy Birthday dear  
FGOS member  
Happy Birthday to YOU!*

**Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society**  
*Affiliated with*  
**The American Orchid Society**  
 &  
**Flamingo Gardens**  
**Meeting 2nd Monday of the Month**  
**At 7:30pm**  
**at Flamingo Gardens**  
 3750 South Flamingo Road, Davie, FL

**Email us at:**

[flamingogardensorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:flamingogardensorchidsociety@gmail.com)

**Find us on:** [Facebook](#)

**Visit our Web site at:**

[FlamingoGardensOrchidSociety.com](http://FlamingoGardensOrchidSociety.com)



**We love our Snacks!**

We all enjoy the delicious appetizers and amazing desserts that are shared each month.

Bring in one of your favorite dishes and earn a raffle ticket!

Please remember to sign up (on the clipboard) when you're planning to bring a dish for the following month.

Thank you all for bringing our snacks. If you have any questions, see Mary Lathrop or Pat Hady.