

Flamingo Gardens

ORCHID SOCIETY

Affiliated with American Orchid Society & Flamingo Gardens Botanical Gardens & Wildlife Sanctuary

May 2020

In This Issue

Meet the Guest Speaker
Page 1

A Message from The President
Page 2

Join the AOS
Page 2

Happy Birthday
Page 3

A Few Notes on Insecticide
Page 4

Nature's Relics Sale
Page 5

Zoom Tutorial
Page 6

WPBJC Resumes Orchid Judging
Page 7

Auction Sponsors
Page 8

Meet the Guest Speaker

We're Meeting Virtually in May...

Come join us on Zoom, Monday night, **May 11th at 7:00 p.m.** to hear our presenter, Jose "Pepe" Portilla from Ecuagenera Orchids! Pepe will speak about orchids from Ecuador in situ and new discoveries!



Pepe is the CEO & Founder of Ecuagenera Inc., Ltd., a family owned business that specializes in the scientific study of orchids. He has over 25 years experience as an orchid grower and is president of the Azuay Orchid Society. In Ecuador, Ecuagenera is a leader in research, conservation, and propagation of species and new hybrids.

Ecuador has one of the highest representations of orchids in the world because of its extreme diversity of habitats and microclimates. There are more than 4,200 species of orchids growing all around the country, from the lowlands to the highlands. For many years, Ecuagenera has focused on research, conservation, sales, and culture of the orchids from Ecuador.

- How do they grow in-situ?
- What conditions does nature provide for them in Ecuador?
- Identification of new Ecuadorian



species in the past years, with many more under investigation right now.

All this with the unique purpose to identify all the Ecuadorian orchids and to conserve these beauties, providing you with valuable information to grow them at home and conserve them in ways that are easy to understand.

Watch your email for your invite to join the FGOS Zoom meeting! Zoom Meeting details are below.



President's Message

I am feeling disappointed that we are not going to be together again this month. However, we are fortunate that our guest speaker has agreed to do our meeting on ZOOM! I hope that you will join us for this new way to meet.

This is a great time to focus on your orchids. My orchids are very happy because they have been getting fertilized weekly. Remember you can order supplies online or from Broward Orchid Supply in Hollywood.

We do not know when we will be meeting in the Gallery again but know that Flamingo Gardens is getting ready to reopen when the Governor gives the word.

I heard that the show at Mounts Botanical Garden in Palm Beach still has their show scheduled for the end of May. Their website is www.mounts.org if you want to follow them. They have a nice show in a beautiful setting under the trees.

An update on the Orchid Show at Flamingo Gardens -- at this time nothing is scheduled. How do you keep hundreds of orchid fans at a socially acceptable distance?

Be sure to check out the American Orchid Society website for the webinars that are open to all, whether you are a member or not.

You all are in my thoughts at this time of staying home and being safe. Stay well and enjoy your orchids. I look forward to being back together very soon!

Jan



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

[Join the American Orchid Society!](#)

Happy Birthday to our May Members

Elda Scott -- May 3

Sally Tastinger -- May 7

Becky Middleton -- May 8

Bill Hodnett -- May 10

Alice Walker -- May 17

Linda Jurko -- May 21

Christine Pellicane -- May 23

Ruth Light -- May 24

Ruth Pobgee -- May 24

Erich Veitenheimer -- May 27

Alex Rodriguez -- May 30



A Few Notes on Insecticide Use

By Art Russel
artrussell1@me.com

Jim Roberts of Florida SunCoast Orchids does a presentation titled 'Summertime and the Growin' is Easy' about growing orchids outside. During the presentation, Jim made a little noted comment about the application of insecticide: "Read the Instructions."

This is really a very important recommendation. Reading instructions, as we all know, tell us about the amount of insecticide to use in a given application. Many of us stop at that point. Oblivious to the rest of the instructions and the warnings. As a result, many go full speed ahead and apply insecticides with little concern about their exposure. After the first time, they get some on themselves and nothing happens, so they think protective equipment is not required. The truth, however, is a bit more complicated.

Many of the more effective insecticides belong to a class of chemicals known as organophosphate compounds and were first discovered shortly before World War II by German chemists looking for better insecticides. The nerve agent series of military chemical weapons are simply insecticides for bigger bugs, i.e., people, and they work the same way. The good news for us as insecticides users is that the ones we use are far weaker than those used as nerve agents. But here's the problem: they are still dangerous.

Many of these compounds act as a cumulative poison. A little bit today won't hurt, a little next week won't hurt either. However, over time these poisons - and yes remember these are poisons - accumulate in the body's fatty tissue. Moreover, the medical research is still not complete about sub-critical dosages (and yes,

that is what you are receiving) and their long-term effects on human health. More to the point, did you ever notice a statement on some insecticides that "atropine is anecdotal?" Atropine is the first of several antidotes administered to counteract the effects of nerve agent poisoning!

While not a "licensed professional," here is my approach to minimize exposure during insecticide application. Use it if you will, without warranty, or better yet, read the instructions.

- Wear a charcoal-based respirator (charcoal filled).
- Wear clothing that leaves little to no exposed skin. Painters and vinyl suits are available cheaply - Use them or a collared, long sleeved shirt, long pants, socks and shoes - all of which you remove and launder immediately after use.
- Wear a hat.
- Wear wrap-around eye protection.
- Wear chemical proof gloves.



- Apply insecticide with the wind behind

you so that it blows any excess away from you.

- Don't apply around vegetable gardens or other foodstuffs.
- Don't allow the overspray to hit gardens, foodstuffs, others, children or pets.
- Immediately upon finishing, wash your hands and exposed skin with cold water (which lessens likelihood of absorption).
- Immediately upon finishing, separately wash your clothes and exposed articles.
- Use only one sprayer for insecticides, don't use it for anything else (You don't want to spray high-strength insecticides on your garden by mistake!).
- Rinse-out your sprayer after use to

minimize exposure later.

This seems like a lot to go through just to use insecticide. It is. Having been in the business of killing little bugs and us bigger bugs, I choose to err on the side of caution.

Art Russell is a member of the St. Augustine and Jacksonville Orchid Societies. Prior to his military career, he was an exterminator applying chemical insecticides. He retired after a career in the Army, where he spent most of his time as a Chemical Officer, an expert in the use of chemical, biological and nuclear weapons

+++++



Nature's Relics Overstock Sale!

Nature's Relics is overstocked with their special old growth cypress wood!! So they are having a huge sale during the month of May!

- 10% off all inventory on purchases of \$25 or more!
- Deep discounts (20-50%) on selected Red Tag items!!

You're invited to visit their "Cypress Wood Garden Gallery", to see their wide array of one-of-a-kind natural driftwood and landscape sculptures. For pricing, appointment, and viewing hours call: Jesse & Dee Vance 954-829-1656 or 954-801-1139. Jess & Dee will be practicing Safe Shopping! Wear your Mask! And you MUST call ahead to schedule an appointment and to get their address. Visit their website: www.naturesrelics.com or email them -- thevancegroup@bellsouth.net

ZOOM?? Is that a new type of orchid??!

by Sandi Block-Brezner
Secretary, West Palm Beach Judging Center
1st V.P. FGOS

By now, I'm sure most of you have heard of Zoom Meetings. For those who haven't, it is a popular cloud-based video conferencing application, used primarily by businesses to host meetings with remote or international colleagues and clients. While we all have been home self-isolating, Zoom has become a very popular way to catch up with groups of friends and family, host virtual dinner parties, celebrate birthdays & anniversaries, hold book club gatherings, attend exercise classes, and go to orchid society meetings!

So FGOS is going to "Zoom" also on Monday night, May 11th at 7:00 p.m.

While using Zoom is fairly simple, there are some good, brief tutorials at <https://support.zoom.us> (<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362033-Getting-Started-on-Windows-and-Mac> is a good one for getting started.)

Watch your email! The weekend before the meeting FGOS will send out a link with the meeting ID and the Password. We will use a password to enhance security.

Hope to "see" you Monday night, May 11th at 7:00 p.m. for the FGOS Zoom meeting with presenter Jose 'Pepe' Portilla!

Cheers!

Sandi Block-Brezner



Contact Us

E-mail Us @ flamingogardensorchidsociety@gmail.com

Visit Our Website @ FlamingoGardensOrchidSociety.com

Join Our Facebook (FB) Group @ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/flamingogardensorchidsociety/>

The WPBJC Resumes Orchid Judging!

by Sandi Block-Brezner
Secretary, West Palm Beach Judging Center
1st V.P. FGOS

Hello Fellow Orchid Lovers!

The West Palm Beach Judging Center (WPBJC) plans to resume orchid judging on Saturday, June 27th.

This meeting will take place in the Banyan Pavilion at R.F. Orchids, 28100 SW 182nd Ave, Homestead, FL 33030. If you would like to have your plant(s) judged, please bring them before 2:00 p.m.

In order to observe social distancing:

- Everyone will need to wear a mask covering their nose, mouth, & chin; gloves are optional.
- Everyone will have his or her temperature taken before entry is granted.
- Proper social distancing will be observed at all times; presentation area chairs will be spaced accordingly.
- Judging teams will be made up in advance of the meeting; each team will be assigned a table for the entire meeting; each team member will take a chair at that table and stay with that one chair; one member will be assigned to handle the assigned plants; if scored, the container will be sanitized before passing it to the photographer; judging tools will not be shared; disinfectant wipes will be provided for each table.
- The Banyan Pavilion has two restrooms with hot water and soap.
- Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to me about a week ahead of time so plans can be made accordingly.

If all goes well, the July orchid judging will take place at Flamingo Gardens on July 25th at 2:00 p.m. Flamingo Gardens is still closed to the public, judging will take place again at the Banyan Pavilion.

This information will also be listed the AOS newsletter, the WPBJC website (<https://www.wpbjc.org/>) and other points of contact. If you have any questions, or to RSVP for lunch, please contact me at sblockfl@bellsouth.net.

Our 2019- 2020 Board of Directors	
President	Jan Amador jbamador@bellsouth.net 954-347-2738
1st VP Programs	Sandi Block-Brezner
2nd VP Membership	Mary Lathrop
Treasurer	Theresa Di Rocco
Recording Secretary	Marcy Schwartz
Corresponding Secretary	Lucy Matos-Lodato
Trustee	Mike Vaupel
Trustee	Antonio Torres
Trustee	Marissa Gittelman
Trustee	Judy Goos
Webmaster	Debbie Brown
Editor	EJ Laviolette

Auction Sponsors

Support our Orchid Vendor Friends that provided discounted plants for our 2020 Auction. The links are provided.



[AM Orchids](#)

[AWZ Orchids](#)

[Bamboo and Orchids Gardens](#)

[Bredren Orchids](#)

[H&R Orchids](#)

[Krull Smith](#)

[Mac's Orchids](#)

[Nature's Relics](#)

[Odom's Orchids](#)

[Palmer Orchids](#)

[Quest Orchids](#)

[r.f. Orchids, Inc.](#)

[Soroa Orchids](#)

[StelMar Gardens, Inc.](#)