



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

January 2021

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Meet the Guest Speaker:

Dr. Douglas Needham

Greetings and Happy New Year!

Our speaker on Monday night, January 11th, comes to us all the way from Stillwater, Oklahoma! Via Zoom!!

Dr. Douglas Needham has enjoyed growing flowering plants since he was a child and got the orchid bug as a teenager! He earned a BS in Biological Sciences in 1977 and MS and PhD in Horticultural Plant Breeding and Genetics in 1984 and 1989, respectively, from Purdue University in Indiana. He joined the faculty at Oklahoma State University in 1989, where he was Professor of Floriculture through June 2007. Then he became Vice President of Education at Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania until he retired in July 2017. His professional objective has been "to educate and foster professional development of others."

Dr. Needham will be speaking to us on two different topics. In January, he will speak on Photosynthesis, Respiration, and Transpiration and why these are important to understand in growing successful orchids! In February, he will present on Phototropism & Photoperiodism, which simply put is how our orchids respond to light! We all know that if an orchid doesn't bloom, the first thing someone will tell you is to give it more light! But did you know that the length of that daylight is also important in getting our plants to flower? Are your orchids 'short day plants...needing more nighttime hours? Or long day plants...needing more daytime hours?

Neither of these topics are as complicated as they sound, and Dr. Needham makes them very entertaining!

At the national level, Dr. Needham has chaired a variety of committees in national horticultural organizations including the American Society for Horticultural Science and the American Public Gardens Association. He is a founding partner of Seed Your Future, a national movement to promote horticulture and inspire people to pursue careers working with plants. Internationally, Dr. Needham was a founding partner of the HORTECUS Consortium, and he was a member of The Royal Horticultural Society's Bursaries Committee Forum. He was also founding partner and chief administrator of the Great Gardens of the World TRIAD Fellowship.

Dr. Needham is passionate about teaching and learning, and he has received numerous teaching awards during his career, including the USDA Excellence in College and University Teaching in the Food and Agricultural Sciences, NACTA Southern Region Outstanding Teacher, ASHS Southern Region L.M. Ware Distinguished Teacher, and OSU Regents' Distinguished Teacher. Additionally, he was recognized as Distinguished Agriculture Alumnus by Purdue University in 2017, and he was awarded the Veitch Memorial Medal by The Royal Horticultural Society, London, England, UK, in 2018.

In his retirement, Dr. Needham grows hundreds of orchids in cool and warm glasshouses. He also designs and cultivates English-inspired perennial borders, and he is restoring a native prairie. Dr. Needham enjoys sharing his passion for growing plants with others through workshops, presentations, tours, and consulting. Dr. Needham was a highly recommended speaker by others who have heard him, and I am looking forward to this opportunity! The Zoom link for the meeting will be sent out the weekend before so be sure to watch for it!



President's Message

Happy New Year to you all and wishing you good health and happiness in 2021! I am looking forward to another great year with FGOS. The goal of FGOS is to present a variety of Orchid themed programs that will help you learn more about the orchids, meet fellow orchid enthusiasts and have a good time, even if it is virtually.

A big thank you to Sandi Block Brezner for the speakers she was able to have for us last year. It gave us the opportunity to hear from growers from other states that we might not have been able to hear their presentations otherwise. My desire is I always

hope you all learn something new about different orchids and/or their culture. After all - what we want is flowers, not just green plants.

To the FGOS supporters who have been joining in on the Zoom meetings every month it has been wonderful to see you all. I miss the society getting together in the Gallery but we have made this social distancing work. Thanks for joining in on the virtual meetings and for sending your photos of your blooming beauties!

Membership update – we are still on hold to collect any dues at this time. If you paid your annual dues your membership will be extended for the year, whenever that begins. Glad to say our financial status is good because of the fabulous auction we had and the raffle ticket sales. Whew!

Mark your calendars - The Flamingo Gardens Orchid Show is on scheduled for April 3rd and 4th, 2021. Plans are in the works to accommodate the vendor's booths which will be spread out for social distancing. Tickets might be sold in different time slots to control the number of people at a given time. More details coming soon.

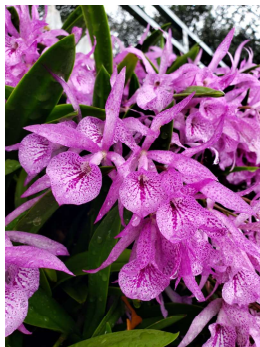
The Learning Center at Flamingo Gardens is moving right along. The demolition is to begin this month on the Zensations building. The parrot cages and trees are to be moved as well. The new Learning Center will give us a fabulous place to meet and great parking. The Gardens is still in the fund raising mode to complete the project. Some of you have asked how to donate to the Learning Center fund, if you are interested check out the website, www.FlamingoGardens.org.

Let's get this year started! I look forward to seeing you Monday, January 11th.

Jan

Member Choice Awards

We'd love to include your blooming orchid pictures in this month's competition. Email a photo of your orchid to ejlaviolette@gmail.com to be included in this month's competition. FGOS Members will have their chance to choose their "Absolute Favorite" entry through an form emailed to them during the weekend prior to the monthly meeting. Winners will be announced during the month's virtual general membership meeting on Monday.



1st Place - #3

Brassanthe (Bsn.) Maikai 'Louise' AM/AOS
(Brassavola nodosa x Guarianthe bowringiana)
Submitted by
Sandi Block-Brezner



2nd Place - #6

C. Wendy Patterson
Submitted by
Bill Hodnett



2nd Place - #4

Hawaiian Thrill x Marlene Lundquist 'Hawaii'-Orange
Submitted by
Alice Walker



3rd Place - #7

RLC. Machina Yahiro
Submitted by
Mike Vaupel

AOS Corner



Click here to [Join the American Orchid Society!](#)

AOS Webinars are live online in the evening and recorded for later viewing. Some webinars are members only -- just another good reason for joining AOS.



Greenhouse Chat January 2021

Ron McHatton

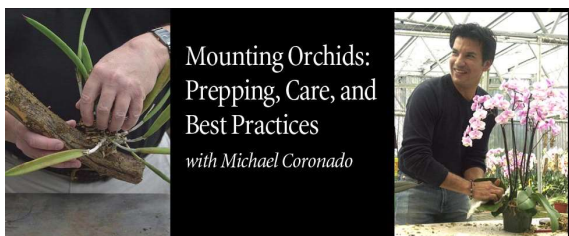
Calendar

Thursday, January 7th, 2021

8:30pm EST

Open to the Public - [Register Here](#)

Grow your knowledge and join AOS Education and Science Officer, Ron McHatton, for a fun filled hour of orchid questions and answers. Send questions to greenhousechat@aos.org by November 29.



Michael Coronado, Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Availability : Member-Only - [Register Here](#)

Tags : Culture

Mounting Orchids: Prepping, Care, and Best Practices.

AOS Library Volunteer Opportunity

Calling all orchid lovers with a little free time to spare!

The American Orchid Society is considering opening the amazing AOS Library located at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens in Coral Gables to the public on a limited basis, if a sufficient number of volunteers can commit to staffing it. AOS is asking each volunteer to commit to just a couple shifts per month so that regular open hours can be established for the Library.

No experience is necessary, but a love of orchids and a friendly spirit would be a big plus. Training will be provided once the program is ready to start up. If this stimulates your curiosity and you would like to find out more, please contact Claire Garrett, Volunteer Coordinator (954-684-1062 or clairegarr@aol.com).

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.](#)

Happy Birthday to our January Members

Carol Matthews -- January 3
Terri Justice -- January 7
E.J. Laviolette -- January 10
Gregg Milu -- January 10
Frank Tastinger -- January 14
Diane Rogers -- January 17
Martha Ilariucci -- January 19
Laura Spofford -- January 19
Leticia Gunn -- January 23
Mildred Stanco -- January 27
Debbie Brown -- January 29
Patricia Hady -- January 29

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