

March 2021

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Meet the Guest Speaker:

Edgar Stehli, Windswept in Time Orchids

By Sandi Block-Brezner



Edgar Stehli of Windswept in Time Orchids, from Broadview Heights, OH (near Cleveland) will be our Zoom speaker on Monday night, March 8th at 7:30 p.m.

His interest in orchids began when he was just six or seven years old. He found a plant growing in the roadside ditch near his home in northeast Ohio. When his father got home from work, he dragged him over to see his discovery. He said "Oh! That's an orchid." His first orchid find was a *Spiranthes* (probably *cernua*). A few years later his family drove to Alaska and back. On that trip, he found a *Calypso bulbosa* in Wyoming and several other orchids in Alaska and Canada.



While in high school, Edgar began growing some tropical orchids, and soon had a small collection. While in his final year at Case Western Reserve University his orchid collection moved to Florida with his parents. Sadly, he never saw them again (the orchids that is!) Also, in his last year, he met Kim Sante who

was working at the Cleveland Garden Center, now known as the Cleveland Botanical Garden. Eventually Kim and Edgar were married in Kenya, Africa. Shortly after they were married, they built a sunroom on the corner of their house. This of course allowed his orchid collection to get a little out of hand. Finally, in 1999 he began selling their plants to area florists, then through orchid shows. They called their new business – Windswept in Time Orchids. They now attend close to fifteen shows a year, where their plants and exhibits have won many awards.



For his presentation, Edgar will be talking to us on Angraecoid orchids. In the orchid world, we often combine related genera of orchids into a larger grouping, often called an alliance. In the case of *Angraecum*, *Aerangis*, *Eurychone*, and several other genera, that group is often referred to as Angraecoid orchids. Angraecoids are predominantly found in Africa and Madagascar. The flowers tend to be white and fragrant at night. His presentation will go over some of the distinctions between *Angraecum* and *Aerangis* with photos of many of the more commonly grown species. Since we all want to become better growers, there is also some cultural information in the presentation!



President's Message

Hello to you all!

FLAMINGO GARDENS 39TH INTERNATIONAL ORCHID & BROMELIAD SHOW is happening on April 3rd and 4th, Easter weekend. The Flamingo Gardens Show has always been a great opportunity for our Society and we need your help! Volunteers are what makes this a success by helping to sell raffle tickets, promoting our society and helping watch over the orchids on display. You do not have to be an orchid expert to volunteer as there are plenty of those at the show. The money we raise helps to cover the cost for our guest speakers, raffle plants for the meetings and room rental fee. Volunteer sign up information will be coming out soon.

There will be AOS judging (on Saturday morning), the FGOS raffle and orchids on display. The judging will be done in the Bar B Q house along with the Orchids on display for the Members Choice and the Vendor plants. If you are not familiar with the Bar B Q house it is an open air structure with lattice sides. The Orchid Raffle will either be under a canopy tent or in the Bar B Q house as that has not been finalized yet. Everything will follow COVID guidelines with social distancing, masks being worn, vendor booths spaced far apart and tickets only being sold online to manage the number of people coming in with staggered times. Flamingo Gardens has been operating successfully by following the guidelines since May 2020. There will be a code for a reduced ticket price when ticket sales begin. If you are a member of Flamingo Gardens or the American Orchid Society (AOS) there is not a ticket requirement, however you must show your current membership card and a photo ID to be admitted. Here is a perk for you - if you are a volunteer you do not have to pay admission to the show.

NEXT – Get ready for an in person meeting at Flamingo Gardens on May 10th in the Bar B Q house! We will have doors open at 7pm and meeting to start at 7:30. The membership drive will be kicked off in April. When you join or renew that will carry your membership through to August 31st, 2022. We have not asked for any dues during this time of COVID, but if you already paid you will not owe any additional money. Dues are still only \$25.00. More information on renewing or joining the society and the meeting details will be in the April and May newsletter.

I thank you all for continuing to support the society by attending the virtual meetings and sending your beautiful orchid photos for Member's Choice. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the Orchid Show and at our May meeting. Any questions - write to us FlamingoGardensOrchidsSociety@gmail.com or call me 954-347-2738. Happy Blooming!

Jan

Fungicide Guidance

Did you know that not all fungicides are the same and they treat different fungi! Below a screenshot of fungicides taken on the AOS Greenhouse Chat of 2.9.2021. Greenhouse Chats are open to everyone! You just have to register on the AOS webpage, aog.org!

Fungicide choices — The number of potential fungicides is legion however, only a handful are commonly available to hobbyists

Thiomyl, Clearys 3336, banrot and thiophanate methyl — these are all chemically the same — thiophanate methyl — These are good, broad spectrum fungicides applied as a spray/drench effective against leaf spotting fungi such as cercospora, phyllosticta and Collectotrichum and anthracnose in general

Daconil (chlorothalonil) — effective against leaf-spotting fungi as a spray

Junction — Really good first defense against all manner of adventitious fungal and bacterial pathogens immediately following sever stress; cold, heat, hurricane

Kocide/Champ (copper oxides) — old standby preventative control for crown rot and leaf blights in many orchids, especially phalaenopsis during hot, wet periods.

Aliette (fosetyl aluminum) and Subdue (metalaxyl) — most effective against water molds such as phythophthora and pythium

Pageant (Pyraclostrobin and Boscalid), Heritage (Azoxystrobin, Azoxy 25C) and Medallion WDG (Fludioxonil) — although more expensive are active against a broad array of pathogens; fusarium, Septoria, cercospora, rhizoctonia, southern blight, many rusts, botrytis, black rot (especially Medallion), snow mold (especially Heritage), Pythium, crown and basal rots, anthracnose



Join us at our 5th Annual Orchid & Plant Festival

When: April 10th & 11th, 2021

Where: The Sawgrass Nature Center & Wildlife Hospital

Time: 9:30am – 4:30pm each day

Parking: Please park at the Dr. Steven G. Paul Dog Park on Sportsplex Drive.

Handicapped Accessible parking will be available at the Sawgrass Nature Center for those with a placard.

Admission: \$7 per person at the gate. Cash is preferred but card payments will also be accepted.

\$6 per person if you purchase by April 9th. You must bring proof of your transaction by either printing your receipt or pulling it up on your phone at the gate. No refunds.

Browse through over 20 orchid, plant, and garden art vendors, enjoy delicious food and entertainment, and meet some of our wildlife friends at the 4th annual orchid and plant festival at the Sawgrass Nature Center!

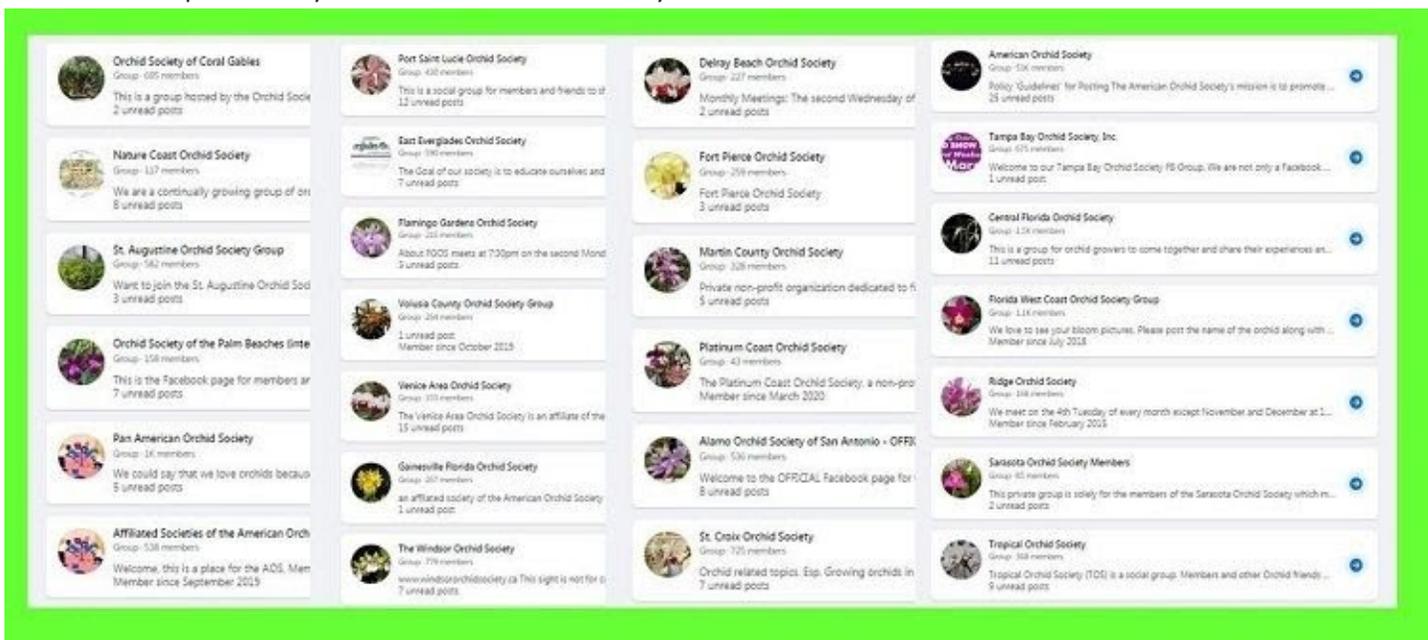
Upcoming Meeting...

Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids (SVO)

Do you grow Catasetums or have you wanted to try? Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids (SVO), will be our speaker on Zoom, Monday night, April 12th at 7:30 p.m. His topic will be about culture and growing tips for the wonderfully special orchids in the Catasetinae Alliance(Catasetums, Mormodes, Clowesia, Cycnoches, Fredclarkeara, etc.) They're really not that hard to grow!
Come join us!

Making Connections on Facebook

Are you wondering how to get insight into what is happening in the orchid world at the affiliated societies level? Quick answer - Facebook of course. Request to join orchid society Facebook groups. Some have qualifying questions to screen potential members but most are readily willing to accept individuals. Here are a few suggested groups to join. This list and article was provided by the American Orchid Society.



Are you looking for a Volunteer Opportunity that aligns with your LOVE OF ORCHIDS? Are you a Good Organizer? Are you Good With People? We need you!!!

The Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society is in need of a Volunteer Coordinator to assist with recruiting and managing the volunteer schedule for the upcoming FLAMINGO GARDENS 39TH INTERNATIONAL ORCHID & BROMELIAD SHOW. If this sounds remotely like something you would be interested in doing, we could really, really use your support. Please contact Jan Amador, FGOS President, directly. She can be reached by calling 954-347-2738. Thanks in advance for your consideration. Remember, we're all volunteers and your experience and knowledge makes a difference.

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 the next month's competition. FGOS Members will have their chance to choose their "Absolute Favorite" entry through a 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 - #9

Rth. Nina de Primavera
Submitted by
Sandi Block-Brezner

2nd Place - #4

Fdk. After Dark 'SVO Black Pearl' FCC/AOS
Submitted by
EJ Laviolette



3rd Place - #10

Cattleya Melody Fair 'Carol' HCC/AOS
Submitted by
Sandi Block-Brezner



AOS Corner

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Webinars-Coming Attractions!



When	March 02, 2021 8:30pm EST Tuesday	March 09, 2021 8:30 pm EST Tuesday	March 13, 2021 2:00pm EST Saturday	April 08, 2021 8:30pm EDT Thursday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	Star Search: Judging Angraecoid Orchids	Semi-Annual Meeting of the Members <i>Space is Limited Register NOW!</i>	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Beth Martin AOS Associate Judge	AOS Officers, Staff, Committee Chairs, Member Volunteers	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer

Happy Birthday to our March Members

James Cannella - March 1
Cary Keshen - March 7
Nidial Miguel - March 11
Ovetta Chalmers - March 14
Kelley Poole - March 21
Ginny Williams - March 23
Katie Hawlik - March 24
Robin Burdeindt - March 29
Alka Dingal - March

Summary of Dr. Doug Needham talk on

Photomorphogenic Responses — Phototropism & Photoperiodism.

By Sandi Block-Brezner, 1st V.P. Programs

A recurring theme among the questions that were asked in Dr. Needham's presentation on February 8th was that of turning orchids to mitigate their phototropic responses. Photomorphogenic responses are how orchids, like all plants, grow towards the direction of the light whether it be sunlight or artificial light, a Phototropic response, and how they respond to periods of darkness vs. periods of light, a Photoperiodism response.

Since most of us grow outdoors and cannot control the amount of daytime vs. nighttime, I asked him to articulate how he makes the decision to turn or not to turn his orchids.

What is our goal when growing orchids? We want to grow our plants to produce as many flowers as possible with the best presentation possible. So, let's think about our orchids' types of growth. They grow vegetatively much of the year and flower once to a few times per year, depending upon species. Thus, one of the objectives of turning an orchid is to keep its vegetative growth uniform and symmetrical. Hence, this is where he thinks about whether an orchid is monopodial or sympodial.

Monopodial orchids, e.g., Phalaenopsis, Vanda, and Angraecum, grow taller from a central apical growing point, producing new leaves as they grow taller. They are especially prone to phototropism, as the apex of the plant will grow toward the light source. Thus, turning monopodial orchids during vegetative growth helps them to grow straight.

Sympodial orchids, e.g., Cattleya, Oncidium, and Paphiopedilum, grow laterally from growing points (vegetative buds) along their rhizomes or at the base of their pseudobulbs. Turning sympodial orchids during vegetative growth can help new lateral growths to grow more upright.

Now, let's think about orchids' flowering growth phase. Some of our orchids produce one to a few flower buds, and others produce a long inflorescence with many flower buds. His rule of thumb is not to turn an orchid once the buds are visible, regardless of whether it produces one to a few buds or a long inflorescence of many flower buds. This helps to avoid interfering with their final floral presentation.

During the flowering growth phase, he does not turn orchids that produce one to a few flower buds from their apex, e.g., Cattleya, Paphiopedilum, and many Laeliinae, once the buds are visible.

During the flowering growth phase, he turns his orchids that produce a long inflorescence, e.g., Phalaenopsis, Vanda, and Oncidium, each time he waters them. However, once the flower buds are visible, he stops turning the plants.

So, regardless of whether an orchid produces one to a few flower buds or a long inflorescence of many flower buds, stop turning the plant once the buds are visible to reduce its Phototropic response.

In thinking about Photoperiodism, it is usually the amount of darkness that triggers flowering in most plants. June 20—22 are the shortest nights in the year and December 21-23 are the longest (in the northern hemisphere). Most orchids are 'Day Neutral' plants and do not respond to the length of day or night. Some, like Phalaenopsis, do need a drop in nighttime temperature to initiate flower buds. Two to three weeks of cool temperatures (60-68 degrees) can initiate flower spikes regardless of light/darkness, but the daytime temperatures must be less than 80 degrees also! Cattleyas are Short Day plants (need long nights!) For them, try to eliminate or mitigate light that might delay or eliminate their flowering!

While there is no list of short day or long day orchids, you can find more information on google.com or scholar.google.com by searching for control of flowering in orchids. Or if you have more questions, please write Dr. Needham at osuplantdoc@icloud.com.

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Auction Sponsors

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



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