



August/September

2020

Newsletter

The Plantation Orchid Society

An affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Jeffery Tucker



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August/September 2020

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Cover

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Acknowledgements and Thanks

Cover photograph by Jeffery Tucker

From the President

We hope this newsletter finds everyone in good health, staying safe, and enjoying your orchids.

Though there is some 'reopening' in South Florida, Plantation is not opening Deike auditorium and other similar facilities in the city. There is no indication when they may open. Consequently, the POS Board is carefully planning the rest of the year, keeping in mind health guidelines and safety protocols. Our goal is to keep in touch with the membership through our love of orchids. The monthly newsletter will be restyled to provide more orchid information and a means for you to share your orchids.

June is membership renewal month. Given the uncertainties of this year, the renewal fee for current members will be waived this year.

We are also looking for a few volunteers to help with content for the newsletter. This would be an opportunity for you to learn more about orchids and pass that information on to the membership.

Please see the Announcements section for more details on membership renewal and volunteering.

Stay Safe !!

Rose Maytin,

President





Announcements and Notes

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

June is our traditional membership renewal month. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, we were unable to have our annual membership pot luck. We missed seeing all of you and enjoying orchid conversations. For the 2020-2021 membership year, the renewal fee is canceled for current members.

Yes. You read that correctly. Your MEMBERSHIP FEE for the coming year is FREE. We ask that you simply email our Membership VP, Donna McWilliams, that you would like to renew and provide her with any changes in your phone, address, etc. If you have any membership questions, please contact Donna. donnamcw2@aol.com 954-683-6381

BLOOMERS PICTURES

Though we can't see you, we know you have some beautiful bloomers out there. So we would like you to share them with the membership. Sandy, our news editor, will have a section of the newsletter each month devoted to POS blooming orchids. If you would like to share, please send 1 or 2 pictures to slangbar@bellsouth.net, use **Orchid** as the subject of the email message.

We are really looking forward to seeing your best!

HELP !!!

Though we are not holding meetings for awhile, the POS Board is working behind the scenes to keep in touch with you and to provide support and information regarding orchids that we would normally share at meetings. To accomplish that goal the next newsletter will have a different format. We really need the help of 1 or 2 members to be responsible for a section on Tips for growing orchids. These can be tips from our experienced members, tips from various sources, or small published articles that we can put in our newsletter. This section can have co-authors who work together. So... grab a buddy and volunteer. Please contact Bev Warde 954-336-3854. bevwarde@yahoo.com.



Fun Orchid Facts and Trivia Questions

Karen Reynoldson

Trivia question from last month: Orchids are the largest family of flowering plants in the world. Orchids comprise approximately what percentage of all flowering plants?

8 percent

Keikis

Orchids sometimes sprout baby plants, or keikis, from their flower stems. Literally translated, "keiki" is Hawaiian for "the little one" and that's just what keikis are. They're little orchid plants. Mature orchids may produce keikis for a variety of reasons. For instance, some genera, such as phalaenopsis and dendrobium orchids, are prone to create keikis. Many times, however, keikis are created when an orchid is stressed. If an orchid is dying, asexually producing a keiki may be its best chance at passing on its genes. Because keikis are produced asexually, without pollination, each keiki is genetically identical to its mother plant. Once mature, they'll have the same flowers as the mother plant.

If you see a keiki growing on one of your orchids you should check the health of the mother plant. Two things to check for--is the temperature too high (especially for phalaenopsis orchids) or is the orchid getting too little light (especially for dendrobiums)? Some growers let the keiki mature, while others remove it so that the mother plant can thrive.

If you want to keep the keiki and grow it into a mature plant leave it on the mother plant until its roots are 2 to 3 inches long. Once the plant is that big cut it off 1 to 2 inches down the spike of the mother plant. Sprinkle the open cuts with cinnamon to fight fungal infection. Replant the keiki in a separate pot with fresh potting mix using the spike to anchor the baby orchid. Protect the keiki from direct sunlight and mist it regularly. Keikis need less light and higher humidity than mature orchids. [from Better-Gro Orchid Blog, 2-1-20]

Trivia question: What other orchids produce keikis?

Small pot = Happy plant

Large pot = Dead plant

Orchid Notes

Tasks for September

- Space plants to permit more air circulation.
- Trim trees to permit more light and lessen the wind load on thea.
- Clean up growing area removing any dead leaves or other organic matter.
- Tidy up old pots or other objects on the ground.
- Apply snail bait; lightly, frequently.
- Spray quaternary ammonium chloride.

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Bloomers !



August/September 2020

*Happy
Birthday*



August

Fred Espendez
Orpha Hirst
Debbie Magenheimer
Susan Meyer

September

Joanne Buckley
Marie Tullock
Terry Voynik
Mike Warde