



The Plantation Orchid Society

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society

Volume 4 Number 4

April 5, 2016

Tuesday April 5, 2016

Setup/Social 6:45 – 7:00 p.m.
Presentation starts promptly at
7:15 – 9:00 p.m.

Deicke Auditorium
5701 Cypress Road
Plantation, FL

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<http://www.plantationorchidsociety.org>

From the President

Dear POS Members and Friends:

It was a wonderful pleasure to have Bill Peters from Whimsy Orchids share his secrets with us. I personally learn so much from his lectures. Please be sure to visit his booth when you go to the Redlands show in May.

Our April speaker is the vibrant and entertaining Alex Lamazares, "The Orchid Doctor." If you have not attended one of his lectures, you are missing out. Bring a friend with you and be sure to attend Alex's hands on demonstration.

This April is the time when we nominate new members for our Board. June is our Election, Membership Renewal, Pot Luck and Photo Contest. Contact our Nomination Committee with your nomination recommendations.

Early Registration begins in April. Print out your membership form. Fill it out and bring to the next meeting with check or cash. Don't forget to get your pictures ready for the June Photo Contest. Not only will your photo be featured on our Auction Poster but you win a pretty neat prize as well.

Thank You,

See you at the meeting,

Rose M. Maytin
President



**Check out
the Plantation
Orchid Society
on Facebook**

Join us on the Board

Would you like to serve on the Plantation Orchid Society Board? Our elections are in June. Please nominate yourself or a friend to be on the board or let us know if you want to serve on one of our committees. All nominations must be presented to: Phyllis Durst at e-mail - jdurst1@comcast.net or Angela Puca at e-mail angela.puca@outlook.com phone (965) 791-1874.

Board:

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Vice President
2 vp/Membership
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Secretary
Trustee

Committees:

Publicity
Auction
Holiday Party and/or Anniversary
Audit
Shows and special Events

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MARCH RIBBON WINNERS!



BLUE RIBBON
Paph. Makuli Curtisi Maudiae
X Paph. Maudiae 'Napa Valley'
HCC/APS X sib
Sue Dohn



BLUE RIBBON
Den. Spectabile
Papua New Guinea Species
Lynn Molitor



BLUE RIBBON
Rlc. Bonanza Queen
'Paniment'
Jeff Tucker



BLUE RIBBON
Tolumnia Genting Orange
Karen Reynoldson



YELLOW RIBBON
Cat. Mai Kai
Phyllis Durst



BLUE RIBBON
V. Dennisoniana X.
V. Mimi Palmer
Karen Reynoldson



RED RIBBON
Onc. Twinkle 'Red'
Sue Dohn

The Plantation Orchid Society



RED RIBBON

V. Pachara Delight 'Isabella'
AM/AOS
Sue Dohn



BLUE RIBBON

Den. Roy Tokunaga 'Best'
X Roy Tokunaga 'Spots'
Lynn Molitor



RED RIBBON

Rlc. Goldernell 'Bord-Ken'
Jeff Tucker

As a reminder, all plants brought in for the show table should be free of pests and diseases. Take some time to stake and clean the leaves of your plants, this allows for better presentation. Also, please do not bring newly-purchased plants for the show table. The show table is an outlet for members to share the great job they have done in growing and flowering their orchids; therefore, please respect the unwritten rule of owning and growing an orchid for a minimum of 6 months.



HOSPITALITY

THANKS to all the members who brought snacks the meeting!

Sandra Sproul - Salsa and Chips, Terry Voynik - Marie Majic Bars, Tuloch - Cheese Coffee Cake Muffins, Judy Revier - Chocolate Chip Cookies, Jill Greenbaum - Blueberry Pie and Chocolate Cherry Pie, Phyllis Durst - Salad, Gigi Louis - Hummus and Pita Chips, Mireille and Peter Jeannopoulos - Subs, Chips, Popcorn and Freido, Elise Chapman - Cookies, Hummus and Crackers

Remember, we love the treats you bring (which are not just limited to sweets) but:
PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO SIGN THE SHEET SO WE CAN THANK YOU IN MAY.
Coffee and soda will be provided by the Society courtesy of Tina Pena.

The Plantation Orchid Society



Early Membership Renewal Begins in April

Cost for renewal is \$25.

Additional family members are \$15.

Just print out the separately attached registration form, fill it out and bring it to the meeting Tues. Everyone renewing by June will receive a Plant at the June meeting!

POS 2016 CALENDAR

April 5

Alex Lamazares - Orchidmania

May 3

Carlos A. Cahiz
OFE Orchid Supplies

June 7

Anniversary Pot Luck, Election, Membership Renewal and Photo contest

July 5

To be Announced

August 2

Davisons

September 6

Mark Edlund - Orchid Acres
Dendrobiums

October 4

Annual Auction

November 1

To be Announced

December

Holiday party



OUR APRIL SPEAKER Alex Lamazares “The Orchid Doctor” from OrchidMania

Alex Lamazares aka “The Orchid Doctor” will be operating at our April meeting. We last had Alex in February 2014. He was funny entertaining and informative. All our members enjoyed his visit.

Donated by Fairchild Tropical Garden, OrchidMania’s 3,600 sq. ft. greenhouse facility is where Alex houses the plants that are donated throughout the year. This is also home to their permanent collection of rare and endangered species that have been donated by growers from all over the world. Alex Lamazares, known as The Orchid Doctor, has been the president of the organization since 1997. He is considered a respected authority amongst his peers for his no-nonsense approach to growing and caring for orchids. He delivers orchid workshops and presentations at orchid clubs and private homes, all over the state of Florida throughout the year. His latest achievement was to be invited to give a talk on orchid care and repotting at the 2008 World Orchid Congress held in Miami, Florida.

Some facts about OrchidMania are: The primary mission of OrchidMania South Florida is to provide financial and moral support to grassroots AIDS prevention and relief organizations, without discriminating on the basis of race, religion, age, national origin, sex, sexual preference, or physical handicap. Moreover, it is our goal to encourage interest and enthusiasm for orchid cultivation in public areas, conservation, and appreciation while providing a positive vehicle for ANYONE to donate their time and talents to AIDS relief.

The money generated by the various fund-raising activities of OrchidMania South Florida, is used to fund the needs and activities of Project Cradle, an affiliated volunteer organization of the University Of Miami Miller School Of Medicine’s Department of Pediatrics.

Voice Mail (305) 667-2992 Web site is <http://orchidmaniafl.org/>



Our 2015 Photo Winner - Jill Greenbaum

Enter Our JUNE MEMBERS ONLY PHOTO CONTEST

Rules:

- Contest is for members only.
- Submit two 8”x10” photos of a named orchid that you have grown.
- Each entry must have the Orchid Name.
- Your name must be printed on back of photo.

**A prize will be awarded
to the winner!**



Our March Program “Hands on Demo” Was Presented by Bill Peters of Whimsy Orchids

Our speaker in March was Bill Peters of Whimsy Orchids In Homestead. He opened his presentation by encouraging us to attend the fantastic Redlands International Orchid Festival May 13-15.

Whimsy Orchids specializes in Cattleya and species related to Cattleya orchids. One half of a Cattleya orchid is its root system and bad roots equals a bad plant. These orchids are adapted for dryer conditions and need to dry between waterings. The purpose of the root is to absorb water and anchor the plant. There is also a gas exchange through the white velamen. Roots are attached to the flatter Rhizomes at the surface. The rhizomes connect the pseudo bulbs which serve to store water along with the thick leaves and roots. Along the rhizomes under paper sheaths are “eyes”. The eyes are where the new growth emerges. Leaves, which arise out of the pseudo bulb, need enough sunlight to give the plant its energy. Overlapping sheaths, called Cataphyll protect the young buds that emerge from the pseudo bulb. Old sheaths can be easily removed when wet, to eliminate hiding places for pests. Cattleya leaves are broad for photosynthesis. Leaves will stay on for 4 to 5 years. Flowers will emerge from a sheath at the top of the bulb and sometimes this sheath will dry out before the flower emerges. Some leaves will never produce flowers. September to April is usually the peak flowering time for Catts.

The interaction of light and temperature is very important for Catts. Light should be at the safest maximum for the plant to thrive. If you increase the light you must reduce the temperature. Plants located under a tree in Florida are usually in a good 30 to 50% light condition. The leaves on a plant receiving adequate light are generally a light green color. Dark green leaves are floppy and weak with smaller growth. When your hand casts a shadow at the brightest part of the day, the leaf should not feel hot to the touch. Then you have perfect light conditions. If the leaves are real yellow the light may be too strong. Temperatures between 80 to 90 degrees are ideal. 100 degrees is about the maximum temperature for Catts. If the leaf feels hot the plant needs misting. At about 1:00 if the air temperature is too high, or if the plants are receiving too much sun, you can just top mist the leaves for 30 seconds to cool them. In the winter when the humidity is very low you can water the ground or concrete to raise the humidity. Although Catts can take temperatures as low as 35 degrees for brief periods, wind at this temperature can damage the plants. It is advisable to use something to break the wind especially on the north and west sides. Keep plants dry during cold periods and water the morning after the coldest night. During the winter, the weekly cold fronts and low light intensity keep the plants from growing much. An east or west facing is the best location for catts. A northern shady facing will not give them enough light.

Bill recommends watering very well and then watering again to soak well. In his greenhouse, he uses misting heads to water and runs the water about 20 to 30 minutes, putting 3/4 to 1 inch of water on his plants. The orchids must be allowed to dry. Too much water will make the roots rot. Open roots dry faster than roots in a container, therefore orchids in baskets dry faster than those in clay pots. Roots in clay pots dry faster than in plastic. Plants growing outside should be grown on cork, driftwood, in wooden baskets or in clay pots. Smaller pots dry out faster. He puts his plants in the type of pot or container that makes his watering easier. When repotting, Bill prefers clay pots to plastic. Bill plants his Catts in a mix of 2 parts Aliflor, 2 parts charcoal, 1 part coconut chips and 1 part sponge rock. He reuses and sterilizes his clay pots for 1/2 hour with 1 part bleach to 9 parts water, rinsing and soaking in fresh water and drying well before reusing. If you use plastic pots, you should use a VERY well drained mix. As the potting media ages it will hold more water and take longer to dry out. He waters his Catts every 5 days in the spring when it's dry.

He fertilizes every other watering. When Bill fertilizes his plants he rotates the fertilizer. He uses Peters Excell 15-15-15 at 1/2 T per Gal. He rotates that with YaraLiva™ Calcinit™ at 1/2 T per Gal. and Epsom salts at 1T per gallon. He prefers to water one day and fertilize the next morning, changing up his fertilizer each time. He also uses Nutracote or Dynamite at a rate of 1 tsp per 6 inch pot. This is a type of slow release fertilizer that releases or degrades quicker as the temperature rises. Larger bags of supplies can be obtained from nursery supply companies such as Atlantic fertilizer.

Clean plants with a toothbrush when you repot and sterilize the toothbrush in a chlorine solution between plants. For pests he recommends Ultra-Pure™ Horticultural oil, used at temperatures below 85 degrees.

The Plantation Orchid Society



Vegetable oil mixed with ivory or Dawn soap can also be used to break skin of scale. Spray with Orthene or Malathion. These pesticides are made to use with a water PH of 6. Sometimes our water is too alkaline and make the sprays ineffective. You can have your water's PH tested at the city or at most pool stores. Bill's water out of his well tests at a 7.4 so he uses a couple tablespoons of vinegar or citric acid to lower ph. Another great but expensive insecticide used by growers is Merit 75 WSP. It contains imidacloprid which is found in Bayer Complete. Orthene is another good systemic that works well on thrips at the rate of 1 T per gallon. Bill advises not to mix chemicals but you should do what works for you. When spraying, be sure to cover the entire plant and spray in the evening so that the sprays do not dry out too quickly or burn with the heat and sun. Thrips are a problem all year. We usually have Western Flower thrips here in S. Florida.

Keep an eye on your plants and check for fungus or bacterial problems. Black rot fungus is caused by too much water and is usually seen on the newest growth. Roots will suffocate the plant if not corrected. If a plant has rot, remove all rot and roots, then put in an empty pot and mist every day. Recommended fungicides are Subdue, Spray with Aliette® drenching monthly and/or use dryer medium. Cleary's 3336 WP (thiophanate methyl) is good for leaf spots and flower spots such as Botrytis.



Cats will grow on anything and should be repotted when the mix begins to rot. To repot, you will need a good stainless needlenose cutter which must be sterilized with a propane torch for 15 seconds on each side, or a solution of fully dissolved TSP (which can be found in the paint department at Home Depot). Using a brass nozzle blast the plant with some pressurized water and using your cutter, cut off most of the roots. The best time to repot cattleyas is when you see new roots growing. From the growing part, count back 4 bulbs and cut there. No need to treat the plant with kid gloves. Bill takes a 12 gauge wire, (Found in the hanging ceiling tiles department at Home Depot) and bends a circle just smaller than the pot. He then bends the wire so it goes straight up to form a support stake for the future flowers. The circle goes in the bottom of the pot. He puts about 2 inches of Styrofoam peanuts in the bottom of the pot. He then adds his mix and makes sure his Cat is sitting at about 1/2 inch below the top of the pot with the rhizome at the surface, held by a rhizome clip. He uses a potting stick (a broom handle sick cut to about 10 inches long with a dull pointed end) to tamp the potting mixture down. He ties up and supports the plant with nylon cord in a loop to loop daisy-chain-like fashion. He finishes the potting process by using a #2 pencil to document the plant's name on the tag. When planting Cattleyas in wooden baskets, Bill uses a piece of shade cloth on the bottom of the basket and holds the rhizome to the basket by using criss crossed bamboo through the slats of the basket.

Bill recommends getting the book "Orchid Pests and Diseases" which is published by the American Orchid Society and having a magnifier on hand to determine which pests are infecting your orchids.

Whimsy Orchids is located at 18755 S.W. 248th Street - Homestead, FL. 33031
Tel. 305-242-1333 - E-mail: whimsy@bellsouth.net





**Davie
Orchid Society**

**Annual
Orchid
Auction**

Tuesday, April 26th

Preview: 6:30pm -- Auction: 7:00pm

Forms of Payment: Cash,
Checks & Credit Cards

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CURRENT EVENTS

Davie Orchid Society Annual Orchid Auction

Tuesday, April 26th Preview 6:30 p.m. Auction: 7:00 p.m.

Forms of payment: Cash, Checks & Credit Cards

Taft Street Baptist Church 7241 Taft Street Hollywood, Florida

More Info: (954) 534-1391

Broward County Plant Affair

Saturday May 7, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sunday May 8, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Plantation Heritage Park 1100 South Fig Tree Lane Plantation, FL

More Info: 954-797-2722 or visit their website calendar (go to the event dates for information).

Redland International Orchid Festival

Friday thru Sunday, May 13 thru 15, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fruit and Spice Park 24801 SW 187th Ave Miami, FL

More Info: visit their website.

The Plantation Orchid Society

Please visit our sponsors and be sure to mention the Plantation Orchid Society

We would like to thank Dan and Margie Orchids, OFE Orchid Supplies, Banjong Orchids, Broward Orchid Supply, TLC Orchids, Rogers Auto Repair Center, TM Ralph Funeral Homes, Green Barn Orchid Supplies, Petri Pest Control, Captain's Pool Solutions, Universal Landscape, Inc. Our sponsors are instrumental in keeping our membership fees low, helping our organization with special events and providing guidance for our orchid loving community.



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Provide the best values and service to our customers
Earn fair rewards for our efforts and invoke the
Highest standards of ethics in the industry