



JUNE 2012

Orchid Society of Coral Gables

The Orchid Society of Coral Gables is a non-profit organization established for the purpose of showing the cultural and economic importance of the orchid, as well as the intrinsic beauty, and biological and ecological importance of this group of plants. We promote the scientific research and study of orchids including their classification, evolution, propagation, culture, care, and development. Additionally, we support the conservation of orchids in nature, and disseminate educational information and knowledge about the orchid family to the general public.

www.oscgonline.org

Highlights in this Issue

There's a New Bee in Town!

Check out what is now buzzing in South Florida!

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COS SYMPOSIUM

An event you do not want to miss - a great educational opportunity!

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Photos from the March and April Meetings

Pix of our pride and joys!

Pages 6, 7, & 8



Membership Renewal Form - Very Important!

Send it or bring it in ASAP!

Page 9

June Meeting • Tuesday, June 5, 2012 • 7:00 pm

Our Annual Orchid Auction!

Preview 6:45 pm, Auction starts at 7 pm!

One of the best meeting nights of the year is here - Our Annual Auction! Be early, be on time, just don't be late! Auction starts at 7:00 pm!

We have collected orchids from local growers, national growers, and, even, international growers! Of course, don't forget those wonderful divisions and plants from our members! There will be more than enough orchids for everyone to get a good deal on at least one plant - and more!



Besides your enthusiasm and your checkbook or credit card (YES, We now take credit cards!), we ask each member to bring a box for our plant holding area and something for our refreshment table. And, of course, bring your friends and neighbors!

This is a great time to bring your friends and introduce them to orchids and the society. If they join at the auction, they get a free plant! And then they can add to their collection during the auction...instant obsession!

This is an excellent way to help support your Society. Help out, bring food, buy plants - it's all great!
See you at the Auction!

President's Message



Hello fellow OSCG members,

Officially, it's still spring, but the Florida rainy season is upon us. This is a time when we must stay vigilant in watching the growth of our orchids. Plants are growing fast with the warmer and longer days, but so are the bugs, weeds, snails, and microscopic fungi and bacteria. Yikes, we have so much to watch for! But, by inspecting our plants on a frequent (at least daily) basis, we can stay ahead of any pest or pathogen or at least catch them in an early phase of infestation.

At this time of year, it's important to eradicate a problem as soon as you find it. Do not be afraid to use fungicides or insecticides if you spot a problem. Isolate an infested plant and treat it appropriately. But don't forget to go back to your bench and treat all the neighboring plants too. Creepy crawlies know no boundaries.

This month is our annual auction. You've heard it before, but I'm going to repeat it because it is such an important message. **This is our most important fundraising event of the year.** The monies collected from our auction cover the lion's share of expenses we incur each year, including our monthly meetings and wonderful Holiday Party.

It is important that we all participate for two main reasons. First, as a bidder you

are helping the society meet its financial obligations. Second, your presence sends a strong message of solidarity to potential new members who may be coming to our auction.

Our Auction Committee Chairperson, JoAnn Forbes, has done a great job organizing this event. This is her first year as the Chair, and she has really made it easy for all the helpers. And thank you to everyone who has pitched in to help with the auction so far and thanks in advance for those of you who will be helping during the auction.

Part of that preparation is the distribution of a separate auction plant list to members prior to this newsletter so you all have a chance to review it and make note of lot numbers of special interest. We have a great collection of species and hybrids for your bidding. The early plant list is the best way for you to be screen the hundreds of plants and ready yourself to bid on plants you want to add to your collection. Bring your list to the auction. You need to be prepared too. Copies of the list will be available at the auction.

Something new this year, and not just for the auction but for all our meetings and events, is our capability to have credit card sales. That's right, no more excuses like I'm out of cash or I don't have my checkbook! You can now use your credit card! All kid-

ding aside, we do now have this option for those who would like to use it.

Our society business is running like a well-oiled machine these days, membership continues to increase, new members are jumping in to help enthusiastically, and meeting attendance is at an all-time high. This is all a reflection of your personal commitment and support. Thank you all.

One of the any volunteer duties we depend upon is our meeting photographer. For many years, it has been Jean Wilson. Sadly for us, this will be Jean's last meeting before moving to North Carolina later in the month. We will miss not only her photographic skills, but her enthusiasm for the society. Thank you, Jean, for all your years of dedication to the society.

We have been fortunate, though to have found another person in our ranks who is an excellent photographer in his own right. I would like to thank Ron Rosenthal for stepping up to take over the photographer duties. You can see his work in this newsletter, and it is excellent! Thank you, Ron.

See you all at the auction,

Jim Davison

Because of the Auction, there will be no Beginner's Class, Show and Tell, and Silent Auction this month.

Tropical Orchid Bees Newest South Florida Immigrants

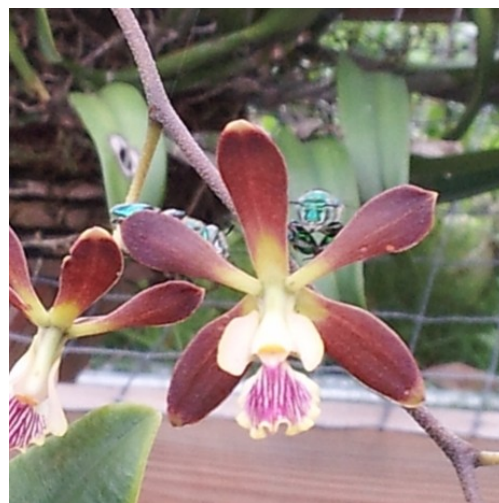
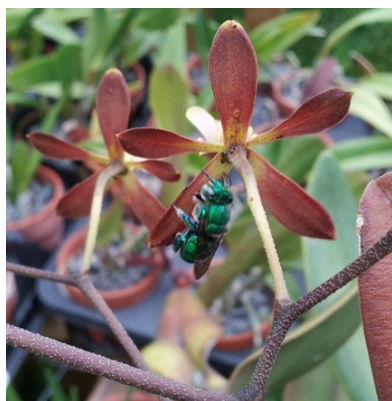
Melana and I found, up to five, metallic, iridescent green bees buzzing around one of our *Encyclias* this week. We all know the *Encyclias* are very fragrant and attract pollinators, but this was a first. In this case, it was the irresistible fragrance of *E. Cindy* (*E. tampense* x *E. alata*) that attracted the bees. They hovered near and about the inflorescence before lighting on a flower. But rather than seek the nectar at the base of the column, these bees scraped the surface of the sepals and petals. We noticed that they spent a majority of time working on the back side of the flowers. Is this where the perfume is most concentrated?

Native to Central America, *Euglossa viridissima*, are known to collect fragrances from at least eleven genera of orchids. But sightings in Florida have been steadily increasing since 2005. The USDA believes the bees were introduced around Broward County around that time. Since then the insects have been spreading throughout central and south Florida. So don't "bee" surprised if you find one of these iridescent insects buzzing about your *Encyclias*.

The Orchid Bee, *Euglossa viridissima*, gets its common name from its preoccupation with fragrant flowers, especially orchids. In addition to feeding on sweet nectar, male orchid bees devote a considerable amount of time and energy collecting volatile compounds produced in fungus-infested wood, rotting vegetation, and specialized "perfume" flowers in Orchidaceae, Araceae, and a few other families. The fragrances are kept in hind legs pouches that are uniquely modified for their storage, and are, most likely, used for attracting a female bee.

These are pictures I took of the bees busy in our shadehouse. They were fairly easy to photograph, as they didn't seem very afraid of me. In fact, as I stood there, they would occasionally fly fairly close and stare at me for a time, before flying back to the flowers.

Jim



Our Slate of Officers for the 2012-2013 Year

It's election time again. As always, our election coincides with our June auction to get the maximum turnout for voting. At the March board meeting, a nominating committee consisting of Chairman JoAnn Forbes, Javier Morejon, and Karina Schmid was given the task of making a slate of officers that the members of OSCG could approve for the 2012-2013 year. This committee spent much time and effort in selecting a slate that provide competent and responsible leadership for our society, and came up with an enthusiastic slate of officers ready to serve. We thank JoAnn, Javier, and Karina for their efforts. They present the following slate:

President:	Jim Davison
1st Vice-President:	Melana Davison
2nd Vice-President:	Jill Sidran
Treasurer:	JoAnn Forbes
Secretary:	Jill Koerber

In addition, there are upcoming vacancies that need to be filled on the board. We submit three new Board members for approval, Bill Capps, Larry Cox, and Carol Dieringer. . Voting for the slate will take place immediately preceding the auction at the June general meeting.



Sunday
June 24, 2012

8 am to 4 pm

Coalition for Orchid Species *Symposium*

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
In the Garden Room
10901 Old Cutler Road
Coral Gables, FL

Four Fantastic Speakers:

**Jay Pfahl, Publisher of The Internet Orchid Species
Photo Encyclopedia, -**

Orchid Diversity Within 20 Acres in Columbia

Bill Thoms, Renowned Orchid Grower, AOS Judge -
Bulbophyllums: Big, Beautiful, and Bizarre

Frank Smith, Krull-Smith Orchids, AOS Judge -
The Improvement of the Phalaenopsis Species

Ivan Portilla, Ecuagenara Orchids, Ecuador -
Orchids from Ecuador

Tickets:

\$45.00 for COS members

\$50.00 for non-COS members

*Price includes lectures, raffles,
continental breakfast,
and buffet lunch.*

Orchid sales will be available during the day.

Contact Erna Maxwell at 305-382-3055 or emaxwell6635@bellsouth.net to reserve your space now!

Open House at Tony Cotarelo's!

Some of you may know Tony Cotarelo from his days as an AOS student judge or from the South Dade Amateur Orchid Club.

Tony is a wonderful orchid grower, and has a sizeable collection. In addition, he inherited many of Joyce Kelly's prize orchids

and was a protégé of Joyce's.

Tony and his wife, Naya, will be opening their greenhouse and growing area to all orchid friends on Saturday, June 9, at 11 am.

If you would like to come, email Naya at naya@aos.org so she will know how many

people will be coming.

Their address is 10340 SW 111th Street. Don't miss an opportunity to see how other people grow!



Orchid Sale at Jean Wilson's!

Jean Wilson has a few plants and supplies left to sell before her move this month to North Carolina. She would like to have them all sold before she goes.

If you are interested, give her a call to arrange a time to stop over.



Other Area Meetings:

South Dade Society: Fri, June 1
Coalition for Orchid Species: Monday, June 18
Pan Am Orchid Society: Tuesday, June 19
SFOS Meeting: Wed, June 20
AOS Judging at Fairchild: Saturday, June 23
COS Symposium, Sunday, June 24
East Everglades Meeting: Tues, June 26

Photos from the March meeting!



Paph. wellesleyanaum x kolog-pingkii



Den. Little Green Apples
brought in by
Linda Curle



Larry Cox brought in this stunning Paph. Sander's Pride

All photos on this page and on pages 6 and 7 by our new photographer, Ron Rosenthal.

More Photos from the March meeting!

Thank you to Ron Rosenthal for photos.



Betty Eber brought in this delicate *Encyclia profura*.



We will surely miss Jean Wilson's large specimen plants on our Show and Tell table.



Jean Wilson's gorgeous Blc. Karen Darnell.



Our membership guru, Pat Chen Yin, enjoying the meeting!



Linda Curle brought in this *E. cordigera* that she bought bareroot from the silent auction table last year!



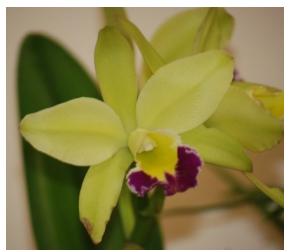
E. Moonlight Shodows owned by Linda Curle. Beautiful!



Lovely Ascda. Motes Cherry Pop owned by Betty Eber.



This is an interesting *Phalaenopsis* mutation. This flower has two lips with extra petals! Brought in by Elizabeth McQuade.



Pretty Blc. Greenwich 'Elmhurst' owned by Javier Morejon.



Another precious *Encyclia* species brought in by Betty Eber, *E. diurna*.



A brilliantly colored *Ascocentrum ampullaceum* 'Thai Raspberry' brought in by Jean Wilson..

Still More Photos from the May meeting!



Cal my number, Bill, call my number!



One of these has got to be a winner!



A very lovely Lc. Cuisseag 'Manda En' AM/AOS brought in by Linda Curle.



*A very lovely
C. forbesii from
Betty Ebers'
cikkectuib,*



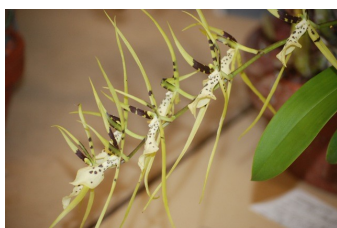
*Beautiful V. Pine Rivers brought in by
David Foster.*



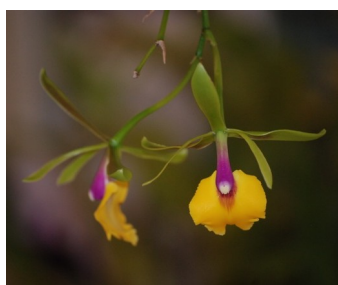
Is that my number? Did he just call my number?



He called my number and



*And another nice plant from
Javier - a Brassia New Star
'Galaxy'*



*A stunning Epc. Rene Marquez
'Tyler' owned by Javier Morejon.*



Yea! We are the best Society ever!

June in Your Orchid Collection - by Dr. Martin Motes

Tasks for June

1. Careful watering this month often means no watering at all. Arise early to enjoy the cool and water only when truly necessary.
2. Space plants amply. Good air circulation is essential across the coming months.
3. Re-pot Phals and re-set Vandas. Make sure that plants are firmly set in their new abodes.
4. Begin or continue a disease prevention program with the prophylactic application of Thiophanate Methyl (Cleary's 3336) and Alliette or Banrot.
5. Clean up growing area and plants. Remove dead leaves from plants and the ground. Pull weeds.
6. Prune trees and shrubs to increase light and air circulation.
7. Apply snail bait lightly early in the month and again lightly mid-month
8. Set air conditioning thermostat at 80 and enjoy living in the Tropics.

The rainy season has gotten off to a roaring start! Disease pressure on our plants has also been jump started by more than double the typical rainfall for May. The early onset and intense duration of the rain place the early advantage with the pathogens that will inevitably be problematic later in the season.

Extra care should be taken to allow our orchids to dry thoroughly before watering. The occasional hard drying which is advocated in July and August would be appropriate this year in June. If a dry patch presents itself in the next few weeks, allow your plants to dry somewhat beyond where you normally would. Such hard drying will staunch some of the progress of the fungi.

This is also a year in which the preventive spray program is more important than ever. Remember correct identification of pathogens is crucial to their control. If in doubt consult your County agent or review the pictures in Florida Vanda Growing.

With two named storms before the official beginning of hurricane season, this might be a year to consider pruning your trees early. In addition to storm-proofing, the extra light and air movement will also be a great boon to quelling the disease pressure of an extra rainy, rainy season.

With day after day of rain, snails can transverse vast distances. Remember snail bait dissolves in the same heavy rains which provide passage for your neighbor's snails to your orchid collection. They can reappear as soon as 7-10 days. Be diligent in your applications.

From the Membership Chair!

If you haven't renewed your membership, now is the time! All memberships except those begun this year will renew in May. The new Roster will be distributed at the July meeting. If you want to be included in the roster, please renew your membership right away. If you are unsure if you owe, see me at a meeting.

I know that some things may seem redundant, especially to those of you who have been members for a long time, but it is important that we make sure we have the correct information for everyone. especially for the roster and the newsletter.

Print out your renewal form on the next page, fill it out, and bring it to the meeting with your renewal fees. Please make sure it is legible, **especially your email address.**

Thank you, and I'll see you at the meeting!





Orchid Society of Coral Gable Membership/Renewal Application

DATE: _____ Membership No. _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____ Zip Code _____

PHONE: (Home) _____ (other) _____

Email: (Important!) _____

PRINT CLEARLY:

Birthday: _____ (month/date)

Business name _____ Occupation _____

American Orchid Society member? _____ Expiration date: _____

☐ I would like to become (Please check at least ☐ involved and assist ☐ with the following:

☐ Phone Committee ☐ Refreshments ☐ Newsletter

☐ ☐ ☐

☐ Orchid Shows (2 per year) ☐ Auction ☐ Public Relations

Library ☐ Welcoming Committee ☐ Membership Committee

Other _____

Do you consider yourself a beginning, intermediate or advanced orchid grower (circle one)

Have you taken any orchid culture classes? _____ Where _____

Do you have any feedback on club programs from this year or any ideas for programs you would like to have for next year? email a board member or Jean at jpwils@aol.com

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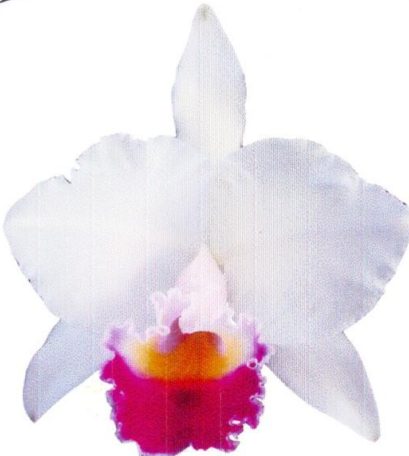


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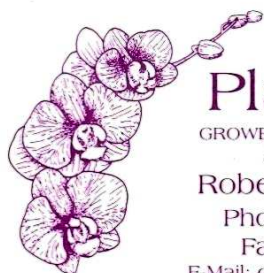
Librarians - Elizabeth Pettit

and Eleanor Sanfilippo

Photography/Website - Jean Wilson

Membership - Pat Chen Yin and Jill Koerber

Orchid related articles and notices for our newsletter are welcome. (Deadline third Monday of the month). The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the editors and writers and do not reflect OSCG policy or endorsement.



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July Meeting, Tuesday, July 3, 2012
Beginner's Class, 6:45 pm - General Meeting, 7:30 pm



Fairchild Tropical botanical Garden
10901 Old Cutler Road
South Entrance