



Welcome

Message from Your President

Orchid Auction



Hello DBOS Members,



Spring is here and orchids are in bloom, but Mother Nature has not been kind to our plants due to hot weather and lack of rain. Hoping that our news weather reports are correct and we get much needed rain soon.

At our March meeting, we had some parking issues due to a special festivity at the cruise line next door, but our members persevered. I have to say "THANK YOU" to our members who attended our Auction for their great generosity. We had an exciting auction, making a net profit of \$1,241.00. A special "Thank You" to our volunteers, who helped make one of our two revenue-generating activities for our society, a success.

Last month, we had a fun time at the Delray Garden Center and enjoyed our *Wine in the Garden*, organized by James Mangan and his team. The food was delicious, the grounds and gardens were beautiful and we had an enjoyable afternoon together.

I hope those of you that are going on our Bus Ramble, on Saturday April 15th, are as excited as I am. I am so looking forward to spending time with you and getting to know you better. We will have a full day of fun, starting the bus ride with coffee and donuts and ending with hors d'oeuvres and a glass of wine on our return. Plus, there will be a 'Gift Certificates Raffle' to RF Orchids and Soroa Orchids. We'll be touring these two amazing grower's gardens and greenhouses. There will be exceptional and lovely orchids to add to our collections from these two prominent growers. I'm looking forward to the new babies, which will be coming home with me. LOL

Don't forget to bring a bagged lunch and a box with your name on it to bring back your purchases and goodies. We still have a few seats available, so please call Jill Row to reserve your seat at 561 323-8597.

Note: Due to the Delray Affair, our pick up and drop off will be at Delray Tri-Rail Station: 345 S. Congress Ave, Delray Beach, FL 33445

I am also looking forward to our meeting this Wednesday on Repotting and Mounting Orchids. There's always something new that I learn, so bring a notepad and pen to take notes. There will be orchid judging and please bring in a light refreshment to share for extra raffle tickets.

Happy growing and see you Wednesday April 12, 2023 at 7:00pm

Happy growing
Chickie Tobias
DBOS President
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Wine In the Garden



ORCHID CONSERVATION

The North American Orchid Conservation Center (NAOCC) is a collaboration between the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center and the U.S. Botanic Garden that will join public and private organizations to conserve, cultivate and restore North America's native orchids.

Orchids are found throughout North America and many of the approximately 200 species are threatened or endangered because of habitat loss. This [video](#) is a guide to the Go Orchids web site and explains some basics of identifying native orchids.

Why are orchids so fascinating and captivating?

Beautiful, diverse and often large-flowered, orchids are an ancient plant family that has evolved an amazing array of flower types, pollination mechanisms and complex interactions with animals and fungi. In the plant world, orchids reign supreme as about 10 percent of all plant species are orchids.

Among flowering plants, orchids are the largest family and no other plant family can match the array of evolutionary features that orchids possess. Collectors prize orchids for their showy flowers; scientists have long been fascinated by the relationships between the plants and their pollinators. Today, orchids have taken on even greater significance – highly sensitive to habitat change, orchids are among the first casualties from environmental loss and damage.

Orchids and their habitats

Orchids have complex relationships with the habitat in which they live; some are dependent upon the fungi that are free-living in the soil, others associate with fungi that are also connected to other plants, especially trees. As habitats changes, the fungal community changes and orchids may lose fungi upon which they depend for their survival.

Orchids and people

Like precious gems, the most unique and rare orchids are sought by the most enthusiastic collectors. As word spreads about the location of a rare orchid, more and more demand is placed on an already fragile population. Once widespread, many orchid species are now found in small, fragmented populations.

What are we doing?

There are relatively few national efforts to restore native orchids. NAOCC is a collaboration formed to pursue the following goals:

- Establish and manage a collection of seeds of all native orchids.
- Establish and maintain fungi associated with native orchids.
- Cultivate all native orchids in botanic gardens in the United States and Canada.
- Provide specialized training for individuals interested in the conservation, cultivation and restoration of native orchids.
- Develop web-based materials to educate the public about orchid identification, ecology, management and propagation.
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To learn more, [click here](#).

APRIL GROWING FROM DR MOTES

Far from the cruelest, April is the kindest month to South Florida orchid growers. The weather in April is definitely settled into warm, even deliciously hot, with passing cold fronts only adding the delight of a pleasant change in temperature. The clean, bright days brimming with abundant sunlight and the low relative humidity create the high drying potential that orchids love. Now we can get our orchids off to a great start on the growing season by practicing our very best watering skills under ideal conditions. Water heavily when you water and allow the plants to dry thoroughly before watering heavily again. Drying



'hard' in the Spring will produce benefits all season. We want to get our plants well launched while leaving all the fungi high and dry.

The new shoots of *Oncidinae*, *grammatophyllums* and *dendrobiums* are quite cup-like; care must be taken that water does not stand too long in these immature growths. Water these types very thoroughly with two or three applications of water spaced 10-15 minutes apart. Water should run freely through the pot on each application. Saturated thoroughly in this fashion the plants will need only weekly watering.

Even more care should be taken with the soft plicate leafed genera like *Catasetum*, *Mormodes*, *Cycnoches*, *Gongora*, *Calanthe* and *Thunia*. The new growths of this type are rolled together (the fancy word is *convolute*) like a collapsible drinking cup. These should be grown in water retentive media that should be saturated at each watering to permit the developing roots to have abundant water but allow the vulnerable new growth extra time to dry. Feel the weight of a pot when you have finished watering. Be sure it is heavy with water. If it's not water one more time. With plants properly spaced, good drying should not be difficult in the hot dry air of April. But do be careful to water early enough in the day to allow the tender new growth to thoroughly dry by twilight.

With vandaceous orchids grown in slatted baskets, most growers find that they dry altogether too well in April. *Vandas* can be watered almost every morning in April. Indeed, a second light watering or misting in mid-afternoon in April and early May is often beneficial provided the crowns and leaf axils of the plants have time to dry completely by nightfall. Another strategy under high drying conditions is to bend the rules, at least occasionally, and water heavily in mid to late morning. Late waterings on weekend mornings (you didn't want to get up early, any way) provide relief for plants that are more stressed on week days with their owners absent.

Excerpted from *Florida Orchid Growing: Month by Month* by Martin Motes. All rights reserved.

Dr. Motes

Motes Orchids

JOIN THE BOCA RATON ORCHID SOCIETY ON THEIR BUS TRIP TO THE REDLANDS INTERNATIONAL ORCHID SHOW

Redlands International Orchid Festival



WHEN: Sat. May 20, 2023

\$45 Member (includes admission to the Show!)

Only 50 seats available!!

Sign up and pay at the April meeting or mail your Check by May 1st to reserve your spot. On your check please include "Redlands Orchid Show" and the names of the people you are paying for.

Mail to: BROS, PO Box 276367, Boca Raton, FL 33427-6367

Don't miss out on a fun day with fellow orchid enthusiasts!

We will provide water and snacks on the bus.

Bring a box or foldable cart to hold your purchases at the Show

We are scheduled to leave at 8:30 am and return at 4:30 pm. If you have never been to the Fruit & Spice park it is beautiful, and we can leave the driving to someone else.

Place we will leave from TBD

FROM THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY

CARING FOR ORCHIDS; Home Remedies By Susan Jones

Hand Picking

The first line of defense, if a plant is not heavily affected by pests, is to pick bugs, slugs and snails from the plant and squash them. Pests have yet to develop a resistance to this type of control.

Rubbing Alcohol

Soak a cotton swab in 70 percent isopropyl (rubbing) alcohol and dab scale, mealybugs (pictured at the left), mites and aphids off orchids. The alcohol dissolves the insect's waxy covering, and is a good tool to reach the pests hidden down in the sheaths and leaf crevices. Pay particular attention to the midrib, other veins and leaf edges. Repeat the treatment at seven to 10 day intervals to remove successive generations.



Another method is to spray alcohol, mixed with a few drops of mild liquid soap, from a misting bottle or small pump sprayer. Avoid strong or excessive amounts of detergent, as this may damage your plants, particularly buds and flowers.

Alcohol can be combined with insecticidal soaps, but not with oil, and should never be used near fire. One of the advantages to using alcohol is that insects do not develop resistance to the treatments.

Oils, Soaps and Sterilants

Horticultural, neem and mineral oils, and insecticidal soaps are generally considered safer for humans, pets and plants than insecticides, and do not generate a resistance in pests. None provide absolute pest control, but frequent applications reduce insect populations to below self-sustainable levels in small orchid collections. They are more effective as early treatment — before a few pests have become an infestation. Environmentally gentle, these solutions are only effective while they are still wet, and must contact pests.

Horticultural oil solutions (such as SunSpray and neem) smother insects' breathing pores and eggs, so complete coverage of all sprayed plants is essential. These oils are mixed with water and a plant-safe detergent for enhancing spreading and sticking, and can be used to control mites, scale, aphids, mealybugs, sow bugs and pill bugs.

Insecticidal soaps (Safer) smother pests and dissolve their cuticle (outer covering). For a heavy infestation, the affected plant(s) must be completely covered. They are most effective against soft-bodied pests such as aphids and mealybugs. While considered safe, these soaps may still damage some plants, particularly tender new tissues, especially when mixed with hard water. They can also cause allergies and respiratory problems for users.

Growth regulators and chitin inhibitors offer other options. Growth regulators, such as Enstar, kill eggs and prevent insect maturation in scale, mealybugs, aphids and whitefly. It needs a spreader-sticker (silicon works best) to be effective.

Reprinted from the American Orchid Society. To read the entire article, [click here](#).

Help raise funds for DBOS by using Amazon Smile .

Did you know that you can help support DBOS by using [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/smile). Amazon Smile will donate a portion of the eligible purchases to DBOS, just name Delray Beach Orchid Society as your favorite charity and shop at [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).

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Upcoming Events

Veteran's Park Recreation building is located on the west side of the intracoastal waterway on the north side of Atlantic Avenue. Construction is on going to the park, but the drive way is open.

Scheduled Meetings and Events:

April 12: Repotting and Mounting Demonstration

April 15, 2023: Orchid Bus Ramble

May 10, 2023: Omar Gonzalez: "Amazing Cattleya Hybrids You Can Grow"

June 14, 2023: Rick Ackerman: "What's in a Name, You Ask"?

Find out what is happening on our Facebook page. Join Us [On Facebook](#)

Website: www.DelrayBeachOrchidSociety.com

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**WE WANT TO HEAR
FROM YOU**

If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the Society, meetings or this newsletter, please feel free to contact our President, Chickie Tobias at 561 445-5605 or [email.](#)

If you have special event in your life or know of a member who is ill, please call our Corresponding Secretary, James Mangan at 561 310-1189 or via [e-mail.](#)

Moving? Changed your e-mail or phone number? We don't want to lose contact with you. Please contact our Membership Chair, Scott Santoro at sansansutoro@mac.com

