

Flamingo Gardens ORCHID SOCIETY

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society

APRIL 2026

Meeting Information

Monday, April 13, 2026
Doors Open - 7:00 pm
Meeting Begins - 7:30 pm

Flamingo Gardens
Learning Center
3750 S. Flamingo Rd.
Davie, FL 33330

Parking is available at the Main
Entrance Parking Area

- Newbie Session
- Silent Auction
- Refreshments
- Show and Tell
- Members Choice
- Raffles
- And much more fun!

Contact Us:
FlamingoGardensOrchidSociety@gmail.com
Website:
<https://www.flamingogardensorchidsociety.com>

Meet our Guest Speaker:

Annette Scardina

Brassias

By: Melissa Dolton, 1st V.P., Programs Chair

Annette Scardina is a proud board member of the Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society and a second-year participant in the American Orchid Society's Student Judging Program.



She has been a dedicated orchid grower for five years, beginning her passion—as many do—with a *Phalaenopsis* from a big box store. Her collection and expertise has grown extensively beyond that first orchid. Annette will be sharing her experience growing and researching orchids in the genus *Brassia*.

President's Message

Wow! Wow ! Wow! What a TERRIFIC Orchid Show we had this past weekend!

Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society has some outstanding orchid growers in our community. The Learning Center was bursting with beautifully grown orchids and I hope you were able to walk through the judged orchid show over the weekend to see for yourself. We had about 800 guests visit the show in the Learning Center over the weekend!

The entries were really amazing! We had sixty-five (65) Hobbyist entries registered. Fifty-eight (58) Individual plant entries and seven (7) tabletop displays. Two teams who put together a tabletop display for the first time, Alison Rials and Cindy Ransing; Christine Viscovich and Jacquie Sowash. Three others, David Sweeten, Wendy Gonzalez and Melissa Dolton entered a tabletop display for the second time in our show. Lucy Matos-Lodato and Pam Segal presenting Educational Tabletop Displays. Thank you to all who created displays and those of you who brought in their beautiful blooming orchids.

Congratulations to Ernest Rose - *Maxillaria tenuifolia*: Best In Show - Memoria Delores Henley Trophy, Best Specimen & Culture, and Best Miscellaneous Genera.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who worked to make our show successful. In the Learning Center for set up, plant registration, welcoming guests and recruiting for FGOS members, plant watchers, plant pick up and finally the tear down. During judging, our clerks did an outstanding job. Thank you to Keryn Bober, Lead Clerk, for gathering and reviewing through all the results with me.

Out in the Gardens the welcoming of vendors & guests, selling raffle tickets, making the arrangements for the raffle and individual basket arrangement sales and recruiting members for FGOS. Thank you to Mary Lathrop who kept all organized in the Gardens FGOS table and Mayra Martinez along with Lucy Matos-Lodato in keeping track of those of you who volunteered both in the Learning Center and the Gardens.

To our FGOS photographer, Gail Santini, thank you for taking great photos for us.

The Orchidteers landscape display "Walk in My Garden" was spectacular! Thank you to Bill Hodnett for providing the beautiful Vandas and Cattleyas for the display along with others who provided orchids and plants to complete and enhance the display.

Special thanks to Dorothy Bennett, AOS Judge who helped us get started with registration and to Sandi Block-Brezner our AOS Judging Chair. Thank you to all of the judges of the WPBJC of the American Orchid Society and students who participated in judging our show.

Alice

Alice Walker, President, Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society

→MEMBERSHIP
Membership runs from September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026.

Official membership is valid upon payment of membership dues.

Renewing member dues are \$30.

New member dues are \$35 which includes a name badge.

- A benefit of membership is the FGOS Holiday Party with your gift of an orchid from the Society.
Please note that you must be a paid member to attend and receive your gift of an orchid at the holiday party.

Please print and complete the attached membership form and bring it, along with your check, to the membership table at the next meeting you attend. If you have any questions, reach out to Annette Scardina at annescar@hotmail.com (renewing as well as new members require an application.)

FGOS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

→ We are pleased to welcome four new members: Beverly Davis, Irene Klaindorf, Alan Novick, and Amanda Walker.

If you see them at one of our meetings, please take a moment to introduce yourself and make them feel at home

Annette Scardina, Membership Chair

→ WELCOME FGOS NEWBIES!

Newbies meet before the FGOS meeting begins promptly at 6:45 to 7:15 pm.

Join the Newbies, open to all orchid enthusiasts with less than two years' experience, or those who are new to FGOS. Our April discussion topic is "Orchid Information Resources". We'll help you find answers to your orchid care questions.

Come for the friendship, Learn some great orchid tips!

Diane Rogers
 Newbie Session Moderator
 Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Corresponding Secretary



2026 ORCHID EVENTS

APRIL 3, 4, 5	FLAMINGO GARDENS: 44th International Orchid & Bromeliad Show <u>"GARDEN OF ORCHIDS"</u> 9:30am - 4:30pm AOS Judging April 3rd
APRIL 8-11	<u>American Orchid Society 2026 Spring Conference</u> In association with the Apopka International Spring Orchid Festival, Apopka FL
April 11-12	Port St. Lucie Orchid Society <u>'Orchids and Ladybugs Harmony in Nature'</u> Port St. Lucie Polish American Club 343 NW Prima Vista Blvd, PSL
April 11-12	Bonnet House presents <u>'International Orchid & Garden Festival'</u> 900 N. Birch Road, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304 9am-4pm
APRIL 13	FGOS presents: Annette Scardina "<i>Brassias</i>"
April 25-26	Vero Beach Orchid Society's 'Art of Orchids' Riverside Park, 3001 Riverside Park Dr., Vero Beach FL 32960
May 11	FGOS presents: Scott Peplin: "Why did my Orchid Die?"
June 8	FGOS presents: John Finer: "Growing Orchids from Seed"
July 13	FGOS presents: Joshua Jones: "Orchid Pyramid: All About Roots"
August 10	FGOS Orchid Bingo
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AOS	<u>Community Orchid Events</u>

Brassias



MEMBERS' CHOICE AWARDS

Learning what others do to care for their orchids helps us all become better growers.

If you have a blooming orchid please bring it to the meeting to show for this month's Members Choice Award. The owner must have had the orchid for a minimum of **6 months**. Winning plants are chosen from meeting attendees who cast a ballot. Selected plants are eligible for first, second, third and Speaker's Choice ribbons. At our Holiday Party, whoever has won the most ribbons, gets a monetary prize.

I have never won a ribbon!

We want to encourage you to bring in your blooming orchid to share with us. Seeing your success is gratifying to us all. We will have a special section of our Show and Tell table specifically for growers who have never won a ribbon. The owner must have had the orchid for a minimum of **6 months**.

→ **Win an Orchid!** The more you do, the more raffle tickets you get!

Bring something for the Refreshment Table

Get a Raffle Ticket!

Bring a Blooming Orchid for "Members Choice"

Get a Raffle Ticket!

Purchase \$5.00 or more of Raffle Table Tickets

Get a Raffle Ticket!

Wear your name badge

Get a Raffle Ticket!

→ **NEW** Show your A.O.S. membership (phone OK)

Get a Raffle Ticket!



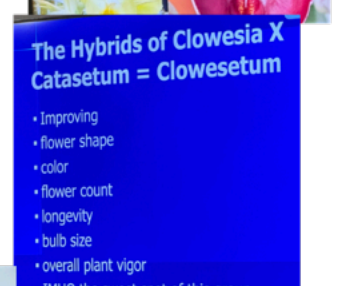
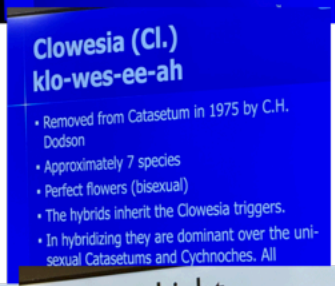
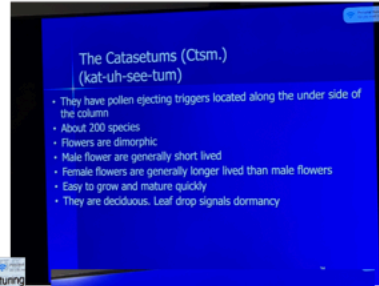
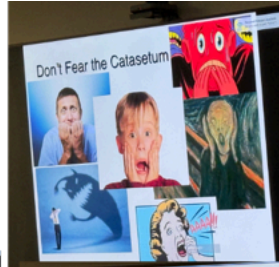
→ SILENT AUCTION

Any member may bring up to **THREE** orchid plants or related items to sell.

Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society 2025-26 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

Alice Walker	President
Melissa Dolton	1st Vice President and Programs Chairperson
Annette Scardina	2nd Vice President and Membership Chairperson
Alison Rials	Recording Secretary
Diane Rogers	Corresponding Secretary
Theresa DiRocco	Treasurer
Lucy Lodato	Past President
Gail Santini	Trustee - 3 years, Newsletter Editor
OPEN	Trustee - 3 years
Keryn Bober	Trustee - 2 years
Wendy Gonzalez	Trustee - 2 years
Mayra Martinez	Trustee - 1 year
EJ Laviolette	Trustee - 1 year
Mary Lathrop	Refreshments Chairperson
Ilene Shatkin	Silent Auction Committee Chairperson
Mike Vaupel	AOS Representative

MARCH MEETING PHOTOS



Life cycle of Catasetum

- February-April - initiation of new growth, withhold water
- April-August - rapid growth, water & fertilize profusely. Roots grow rapidly in dry conditions.
- August-October - final growth, keep media moist
- October-December - leaf drop - reduce water severely
- Late October-February - dormancy - don't water

But lately, things are a bit different

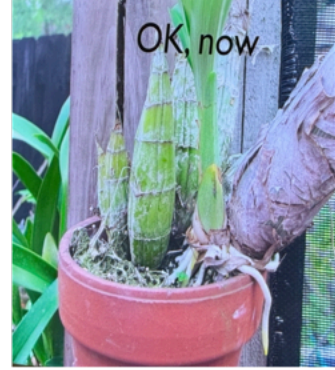
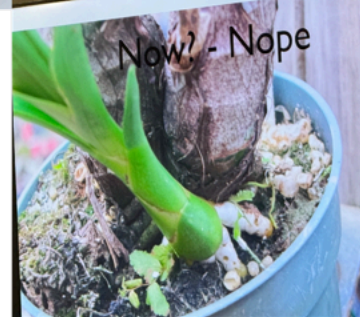
- Plants are coming out of dormancy earlier
- Put a circle around January
- Plants are going into dormancy later
- Late November, December
- I never force dormancy by withholding water

Light

- Catasetum are light friendly - the light they get used to in their initial growth is the light they will be adapted to.
- I grow in a shade house with a 40% shade screen - I like to push them with high light.
- I've seen native equatorial Catasetum's growing on the top of palm trees in full sun.
- I grow some in my backyard in full sun.

Watering

- When to start seasonal watering is crucial for the growth and health of this group
- incidental water during the winter months won't hurt the plant



New trends in growing Catasetum

- Catasetum's are pigs. You can't water or fertilize too often.
- PET method. Start with a no hole container. Make holes in the container 1/3 from the bottom, ceramic 1/4 from the bottom so the plant sits in the water. Pack the pot with your preferred media.
- For larger pots, I prefer sphagnum and rock.
- Florikan 18-6-8 No or low Urea top dressing. (Urea can only be used by plants after bacteria have processed it into nitrates) Dynamite top dressing
- Purely Organic fertilizer added to the mix 1 tablespoon 2x during the growing season. Early, and mid-season **Cell** 803-622-6622
- Fertilize once a week with a non-urea, N03 high formula. You can fertilize more often if you want, they can be pushed. Jack's professional Orchid well water, Peters excel Multi purpose Better Grow, MSU orchid fertilizer for well water. You can use city water, but chlorine isn't great for the flora of your substrate.
- Lots of sun and some space. Can be in full sun, if in the sun, when growth starts.
- Water 2 or 3x a week, including fertilizing, and hope for a thunderstorm.

Where to learn more about Catasetums

- <http://www.orchidworks.com/> by Greg Allikas
- <http://catasetinaecanada.weebly.com/awarded-clowesetum.html>
- Facebook has quite a few Catasetum groups
- Facebook Catasetinae Fever
- Catasetinae (Can), Cyrtopodiinae & related intergenerics
- Catasetum Brasil
- Catasetum Vietnam

One last thing before we go

One of the more exciting reasons to grow orchids is going to a judging, getting them awarded, naming them after people you love

My Daughter holding an awarded plant named after her, photographed by Greg Allikas

Ctism Fanfare "Sweet Caroline" HCCAOS



PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS



**1st Place
Carmen Teran
Den. Fairy Moon 'Sweetie'**



**2nd Place, Tie & Culture Award
Tom Nordman
Epi. ciliare**



**2nd Place, tie, & Speaker's Choice
Lucy Matos Lodato
Lysn. Red Jewel 'Hilo Girl'**



**3rd Place
Traci Slusher
Blc Taiwan Chief Wine**

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS for two FGOS members receiving AOS Awards in March, Carmen Teran and David Sweeten.

Congratulations to FGOS Member **Carmen Teran** for her first AOS recognition.

“Yesterday, the WPBJC awarded a CCM—with a score of 87 points—to my lovely aggregatum. I am more than happy—absolutely thrilled—by this recognition. She was a bag baby I acquired at HD, and for me to receive this award ten years later is just... wow! She bears my mother's name, 'Ines Marin'—a woman who tirelessly works magic with her plants, and from whom, along with my father, I inherited this love for plants. This is my first AOS recognition.”



Congratulations to FGOS Member **David Sweeten** for receiving awards for three orchids. The first is an HCC for his Pda. Naoki's Sunrise 'My Buddy', see photo with yellow flowers...



The second is a CCM for V. Motes Adorbs 'Traci's Birthday Surprise' with a special message from Traci: *"🎵Happy Birthday to me!! Allow me to share with you, a beautifully newly AOS Awarded Vanda Motes Adorbs 'Traci's Birthday Surprise'. Awarded a CCM, by the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center, and my husband gave it a clonal name in honor of my birthday. It's been an absolutely magical day!! David Sweeten Thank you to Motes Orchids for supplying us with magnificent plants to grow!!"*

Note: this orchid is described as having approximately 1,352 flowers and 54 buds on 52 inflorescences...

The third AOS Award is an HCC for his Clowestum Eufemia's Elegance, clonal name 'Sweeten's Raspberry Delight'.

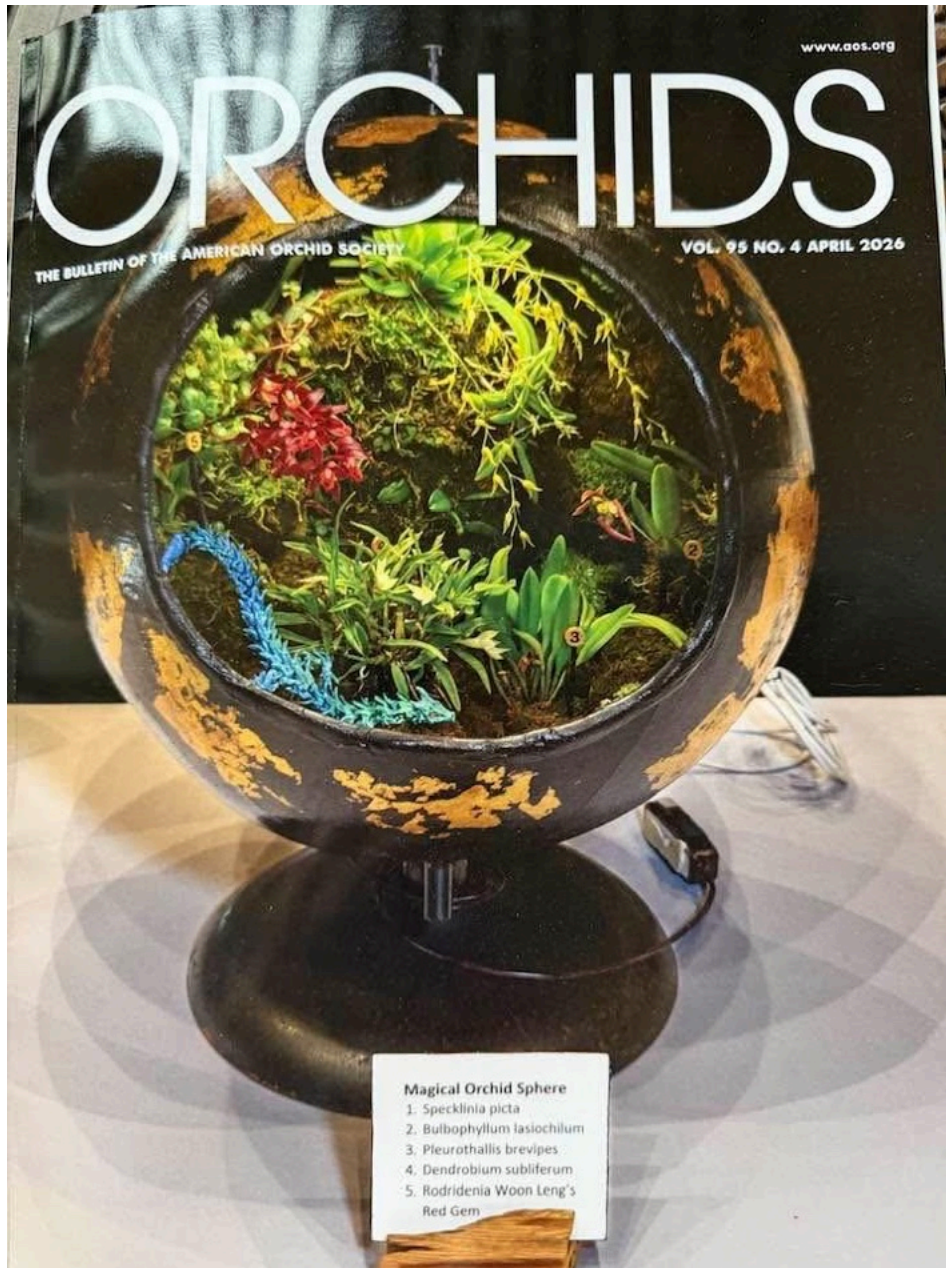
In the photo David is holding his Pda. Naoki's Sunrise 'My Buddy' and his Clo. Eufemia's Elegance.



AOS ARTISTIC CERTIFICATE

The Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society is honored to share with you an award given to member **Vickie Hallock**. The following is a quote from the April issue of the AOS magazine:

“...Our front cover subject, awarded in January of this year, is one of 808 Artistic Certificates presented throughout our judging history. Entitled Magical Orchid Sphere, this exceptionally arranged antique world globe earned by Vickie Hallock a much-deserved 86-point AC/AOS at the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Show. Photograph by Scott Joffe.”



Congratulations Vickie!!

ORCHID SHOW - DISPLAY AWARDS - TABLE-TOP

AOS Trophy, 2nd Place Ribbon
David Sweeten: The Serenity Garden



1st Place Ribbon, Individual Display
Wendy Gonzalez
Orchid Garden of Serenity



3rd Place Ribbon
Cindy and Allison
Hoo's in the Garden?



ORCHID SHOW - BEST IN SHOW
Ernest Rose
Maxillaria tenuifolia

Best In Show - Memoria Delores Henley Trophy, Best Specimen, Culture, and Best Miscellaneous Genera.



Congratulations Ernest!

ORCHID SHOW - DISPLAY AWARDS: EDUCATION

1st Place- Lucy Lodato - Native Orchid Restoration:



2nd Place - Pam Segal - Interaction of Beneficial Insects:



ORCHID SHOW PEOPLES' CHOICE AWARDS

1st Place Wendy Gonzalez
Den lindleyi



2nd Place Bill Hodnett – Rlc Burdekin Wonder



3rd Place Melissa Dolton
Table-top display 'Spring has Sprung'

FLAMINGO GARDENS' ORCHIDTEERS DISPLAY





★ **Join the American Orchid Society**

- ★ Are you a member of the American Orchid Society? [Click here to join today.](#)

★ **AOS Webinars**

- ★ Do you want to learn more about your orchids through **Webinars**? Check out the upcoming webinars [here](#). Some are for Members Only, others open to the public. Webinars are recorded so you have access to older ones.

★ **Orchidist's Word of the Month** from the AOS

- ★ **Brassia** (BRASS-ee-ah) A genus of about 35 species in the *Oncidium* alliance characterized by spiderlike flowers, described by Robert Brown in 1813 in honor of William Brass, an 18th-century botanical illustrator.
- ★ If you hear a term during a presentation and don't know the meaning, you can get your answers in the [Orchidist's Glossary](#).

Visit the AOS website [AOS.org](https://www.aos.org) for information about orchids, orchid culture, judging, and much more...

<https://www.aos.org/members-meetings> AOS SPRING CONFERENCE APRIL 8-11



[LINK TO THE APRIL 2026 AOS CORNER](#)

[LINK TO THE FGOS WEBSITE FOR PREVIOUS AOS CORNER NEWSLETTERS](#)