

Flamingo Gardens ORCHID SOCIETY

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society

JULY 2026

Meeting Information

Monday, July 13, 2026
Doors Open - 7:00 pm
NEWBIES Begin - 6:45 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:

Joshua Jones

Orchid Pyramid: All About Roots

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

Joshua Jones is a grower, producer, and educator of all things orchid related. He has been growing healthy, established orchids for over 20 years. A lifelong resident of Jacksonville, Florida, Joshua began his orchid journey with a simple *Phalaenopsis* and gradually expanded to growing more complex species and hybrids across many genera.



Along the way, he taught himself ceramics and began creating detailed orchid pottery using high-quality materials. His passion for orchids eventually led him to launch his own business, [The Orchid Den](https://www.theorchidden.com).

Joshua has received multiple awards for his exceptionally well-grown plants, shares his knowledge through educational presentations and videos, and is actively hybridizing orchids. You can also learn from his experiences and growing tips on his YouTube channel, *The Orchid Den*.

We look forward to welcoming Joshua to our July meeting, where he will present *Orchid Pyramid: All About Roots*, sharing his insights on the function of orchid roots, how to promote healthy root development, and techniques for stimulating root growth.



President's Message



Summertime! HOT! Humid! Rainy!

In this month of July we must keep our orchids happy ensuring they are receiving the water they need and great air flow along with feeding as they are growing. Check your collection for potential black rot, fungus, pests or for anything else that may look suspicious and treat appropriately. Keep your growing area clean and tidy.

We're revving up for some fun at our August 10th meeting "Orchid Bingo"!



Avoid the long lines in August. Members may purchase cards in advance at our July 13th meeting. Orchids and more as prizes for the games and Raffle for Orchid centerpieces. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for the details.

- \$5.00/Bingo card - maximum 4 per person - \$10.00 Cover All card - Maximum 1 per person
- Centerpiece raffle tickets - 6 for \$5.00
- Members who bring in an appetizer will receive a member raffle ticket
- Members may bring in their blooming orchids for Show & Tell.
- Member entry is free, Non-Member entry \$5.00. Seating is limited.
- No Newbie Sessions, No Silent Auction, No Member's Choice Awards

It's time for Membership Renewals. Our fiscal year runs from September 1st - August 31st. The membership dues for renewals are still \$30.00 for the year. We ask for you to fill out a new application this year to ensure we have your correct information. There will be a link to the form attached in this newsletter for you to fill out and bring to the meeting. We always have forms at the meetings if you need one.. Your support of the Society is greatly appreciated.

Next up is Election for Three Trustee positions on the FGOS Board of Directors. Interested in serving as a Trustee? Please reach out to Lucy Matos-Lodato, Amanda Norton or myself or email FlamingoGardensOrchidSociety@gmail.com. The nominees for these Trustee positions will be presented at the August meeting. The voting will be held in September.

"To motivate curiosity about orchids through education, exchanging of information, and association with other orchid enthusiasts." Take this opportunity when we are gathered together to get to know one another. Whether you are a beginner or a more experienced hobbyist we can all benefit from asking questions and sharing our experiences with one another.

Let's Bloom and Grow Together,

Alice, Alice Walker, President, Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society





Flamingo Gardens ORCHID SOCIETY *Orchid* **BINGO**



Join us for a fun evening of
BINGO, ORCHIDS & COMMUNITY!

**DATE**

Monday, August 10, 2026

**TIME**

Doors Open: 6:45pm

Bingo Starts: 7:30pm

**LOCATION**

Flamingo Gardens Learning Center

3750 5 Flamingo Rd

Davie, FL 33330

**ADMISSION**

FGOS Members Free

\$5.00 Non-Members

**BINGO CARDS**

\$5.00 Regular Bingo Cards Max 4

\$10.00 Cover All Card Max 1

**PRIZES**Orchids, Orchid Related Prizes,
Raffle Centerpieces**INCLUDES**Bring Appetizers
Beverages Provided**SPECIAL NOTES**

- Members Show & Tell
- No Newbie Sessions
- No Silent Auction

*Fun,
Friends &
Fantastic
Prizes!*



flamingogardensorchidsociety.com

→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.

→ ****New members who join May, June, or July, gain membership through August of the following year**

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: John Finer, Eston Mansfield, Sonia Matthews, Susanna Wen.

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 June discussion topic is

"Five to Thrive"

We'll discuss ways to ensure your orchids are high achievers. Share your tips, too.

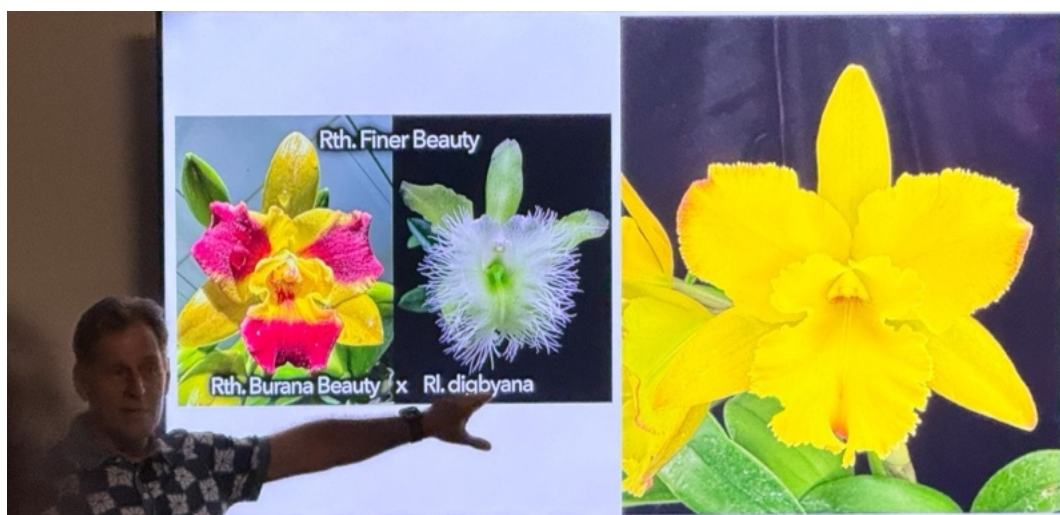
Come for the friendship, Leave with some great orchid tips!

Diane Rogers
Newbie Session Moderator
Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Corresponding Secretary



2026 ORCHID EVENTS

July 13	FGOS presents: Joshua Jones: "Orchid Pyramid: All About Roots"
August 8	Orchid Society of the Palm Beaches Speaker Day 2026: The Great Orchid Extravaganza , Mounts Botanical Garden, WPB
August 10	FGOS Orchid Bingo - see Flyer on page 3
September 14	FGOS presents: Nelson Viera: "How to Pick the Right Orchid at an Orchid Show"
October 12	FGOS presents: James Furst: "Orchid Naturalization and Long-Term Solutions for Establishment Outdoors, with General Growing Tips and Techniques"
November 9	FGOS presents: Gabriel Cuesta - Quest Orchids
December 14	FGOS HOLIDAY PARTY
	Ever wonder how many Orchid Societies are in Florida? https://www.aos.org/community-events/affiliated-society-lookup
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AOS	Community Orchid Events



John Finan showing one of his hybrids.

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.

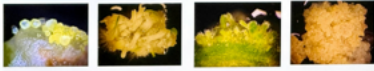
Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society 2025-26 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

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

JUNE MEETING PHOTOS - John Finan

My Background: Tissue Culture Propagation/Cloning/Biotechnology

Cells and tissues are isolated from plants, placed on synthetic media, (containing minerals, nutrients, and hormones) in Petri dishes and encouraged to grow and develop at very fast rates.

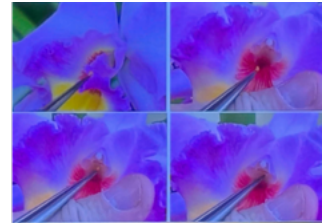


How to make new orchid hybrid seed



Pollination:

Orchids form 2-8 pollinia (sacks of pollen)
Pollinia can be removed and stored for a year
Pollinia placed on sticky stigmatic surface.
Flower fades quickly – seeds form slowly..



Day 0



Day 3



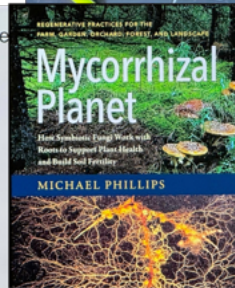
Day 7



Day 33



In nature, orchid seed are numerous and small, and are usually carried by the wind.
Orchid seed contain the embryo but no endosperm or food for germination and early growth.
Orchid seeds rely on the substrate that they land on to supply food (not just chemical nutrients) for growth.
Orchids seeds nurture a relationship with **mycorrhizal fungi**, which break down humic substrates to provide sugars and other nutrients to the orchid embryo. Lots of different mycorrhizal fungi.....

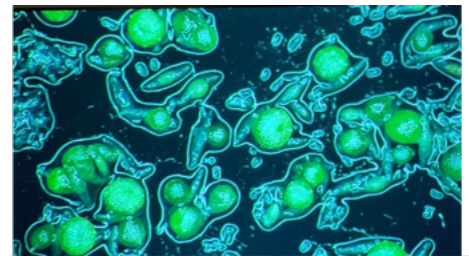
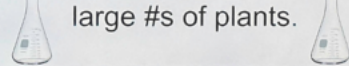


Mycorrhizal fungi are plant root-associated fungi, which have 4 main functions:

- Required for orchid seed germination (in nature)
- Increase the surface area of the root to increase water and nutrient uptake.
- Compete with pathogenic organisms.
- Induce defense responses in plants to help combat pathogens.

Conditions for orchid seed germination in nature must be perfect and survival is very, very, very low. Orchids grow very, ~~very~~, ~~very~~ slowly

In the laboratory, through "flasking", the seed can be supplied with optimal minerals and nutrients to allow high survival and the production of large #s of plants.



These are PREMIERE hand-picked seedlings!



Selection of the BEST seedlings under dissecting microscope!

Grow tent – high intensity LEDs



Registration through the Royal Horticultural Society.

Crosses are named for ~ \$15.00
Reciprocal crosses are named the same
Heterogeneous population – same name for all
Cultivars are named through the American Orchid Society after being awarded.
Cloning is done via "mericlone" but shoot tips and not meristems are usually used

The Orchid Propagator

John Finan, Naples, Florida
TheOrchidPropagator@gmail.com



Cell: 330-466-4735

Providing orchid flasks and seedlings of novel hybrids

Finer orchids for fine growers

Growing Orchids from Seed
John Finan, June 8, 2026



JUNE MEMBER'S CHOICE AWARDS



MANGO TANGO

On June 20th, the Hollywood Historical Society presented its annual 'Mango Tango Festival' at the Historical Hammerstein House on Polk St. in Hollywood.

The Hammerstein House was donated to the City of Hollywood by Clarence Hammerstein in memory of his late wife, Vera. He was also a partner of Floyd L. and Jane Wray who gave the 60 acres now known as Flamingo Gardens. While creating the botanical gardens in what was then 'Flamingo Groves', Floyd Wray wanted to create a showcase of international tropical fruit. This was perfect for Mr. Hammerstein who loved mangos. He became the local expert on mangos with trees in his yard, organized mango competitions, offered tips to mango growers, created his own hybrids, and brought in different kinds of mangos from his travels around the world.

Represented at the Mango Tango were Cindy from the Orchidteers, Keryn from the Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society, and Alice representing both, as well as Joleen Koehly, Flamingo Gardens, Curator of Art and History.



“Florida’s Flower Force - inside the Flamingo Gardens Orchidteers”

Congratulations to the Orchidteers for being recognized on Local 10 News in their feature program “What Connects Us”

<https://www.local10.com/features/2026/07/01/floridas-flower-force-inside-the-flamingo-gardens-orchidteers/>





★ **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

- ★ **velamen** (VEL-lah-min) The layer or layers of cells covering the roots of epiphytic orchid which aid in the rapid absorption and assimilation of water and mineral nutrients.
- ★ 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 for information about orchids, orchid culture, judging, and much more...



[JULY AOS CORNER](#)

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