

Flamingo Gardens ORCHID SOCIETY

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society

FEBRUARY 2025

Meeting Information

Monday, February 10, 2025
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: John Romano Genus Dendrobium

By Alice Walker, V.P. Program

John Romano is an AOS accredited judge who started growing orchids in 1977 at the age of 11. He worked at Waterloo Gardens, Inc., in Exton, PA, and Gilberties Garden Center in Delaware County, PA, as tropical plant expert and orchid manager and purchaser. Later he moved to South Florida and in 2002, he was hired at JEM Orchids in Delray as their grower and worked there until 2005.

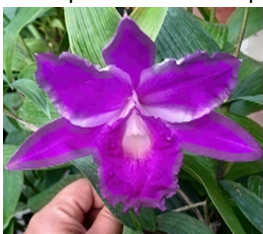
He specializes in Sobralia, Dendrobium, Catasetinae, and unusual species. In 2014, a new species of Sobralia which was discovered in Guatemala was named after him, *Sobralia romanoi*. John also has had several orchids awarded.

By day, John is a licensed healthcare provider specializing in pain management and sports therapy. He also teaches healthcare modalities in schools and colleges as well as continuing education for other licensed healthcare providers and is an international lecturer. He won Fort Lauderdale's "Best Of" for Healthcare providers in 2020 – 2024. He has

also been a guest sports therapist with the Florida Panthers since 2022.

John administers several Facebook groups including the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center, Other Worlds Orchids, Sobralia and Brasolia, and Dendrobium Species, has the Let's Talk Orchids group and hosts the YouTube show by the same name. John is the owner of Other Worlds Orchids. www.oworchids.com. He is a member of Florida Orchid Growers and Newbie FOG groups on Facebook; runs the Sobralia and Brasolia group, the Dendrobium Species group on Facebook as well as runs the corresponding website www.dendrobiumspecies.com. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/john.romano4>

Facebook Group: Dendrobium Species <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dendrobium%20species%20group>



In 2014, a new species of Sobralia which was discovered in Guatemala was named after John Romano: *Sobralia romanoi*.





President's Message

Happy February! It's winter and early spring bloom time. It's so fun looking for buds and waiting for the awesome flowers to follow. I'm loving the few Cattleyas I have, and looking forward to what you'll bring in to show next Monday.

What's new at FGOS? We are starting a **suggestion box** (question, ideas etc....) for our February meeting. The box is for you to ask or tell the board what's on your mind about orchid related matters. Let's see where it leads us. The box will be at the membership welcome table.

Field trips, workshops and Rambles are being planned. If you are interested in helping to coordinate any of these activities, by all means let Alice Walker or me know at our meeting next week.

We are getting ready for **the Orchid Show** on April 19th & 20th; the theme is "A Garden of Orchids". The show will be the big item for the next 2 months. We plan to have a few table-top displays at the show, as well as the cut flower and container arrangements. **Reminder, there are \$ awards for winners.** We can do this! It's our show, let's make it beautiful!

To get us ready to make arrangements etc..., we can certainly have a workshop or two; are any of us willing to host a workshop on your patio? We promise a fun time, learning something, no pressure, and of course, we promise to clean up.

Let's get inspired!

Lucy



→ MEMBERSHIP

Renew now as our membership year runs from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025.

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 annesca@hotmail.com (renewing as well as new members require an application.)

FGOS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We are pleased to welcome five new members to the society– Dianna Delgado, Robin Jensen, Pete La Moia, Jennifer Lombardi, Derek Reeder. If you see them at one of our meetings, please take a minute to introduce yourself and make them feel at home.

Annette Scardina, Membership Chair

→ WELCOME FGOS NEWBIES!

Newbie Session February 2025

Newbies meet before the FGOS meeting begins, 6:45 - 7:15 pm

Join the Newbies, open to all new orchid enthusiasts with less than two years' experience, or those who are new to FGOS. February's topic is "Introducing New Orchids to Your Collection" since some of you are visiting local orchid shows and coming home with new beauties to enhance your orchid garden. There is a science to successfully incorporating new plants into your collection.

Come for the friendship, pick up some helpful orchid growing tips.

Diane Rogers

Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Board

Corresponding Secretary and Newbie Session Moderator

2025 ORCHID EVENTS

February 10	Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society presents: John Romano - Genus Dendrobium
March 1-2	Flamingo Gardens presents: Exotic Plant Festival & Bonsai Show More information
Feb 28 - March 2	Martin County Orchid Society's "Orchid Sea Cruise" Martin County Fairgrounds, Building G, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy, Stuart, FL More information
March 8-9	The Orchid Society of Coral Gables "Fairchild Orchid Festival" Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd, Coral Gables, FL More information
March 10	Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society presents: Jim Roberts, Florida Suncoast Orchids: A Few Encyclias to Enjoy
March 15-16	The Jacksonville Orchid Society presents "Orchid Jungle" March 15-16 Mandarin Garden Club, 2892 Loretto Road, Jacksonville More information
March 21-23	The Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance "Rockin' and Rollin' with Orchids" March 21 - 23, 2025, at the North Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Road, Naples, FL 34109. More information
April 14	Flamingo Gardens presents: Claire Garrett, Hobbyist: Rio Negro Adventure, Brazil
April 19-20	Flamingo Gardens presents: 43rd International Orchid & Bromeliad Show (set up Friday, April 18th)
May 12	Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society presents: Sandi Jones, Broward Orchid Supply, Pests and Disease Management
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AOS	Community Orchid Events

→ 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. 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. 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!



→ SILENT AUCTION

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

Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society 2024-25 Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

Lucy Matos-Lodato	President
Alice Walker	1st Vice President and Program Chairperson
Annette Scardina	2nd Vice President and Membership Chairperson
EJ Laviolette	Recording Secretary
Diane Rogers	Corresponding Secretary, Newbie Group
Theresa DiRocco	Treasurer
Mayra Martinez	Trustee - 2 years, Member's Choice Chairperson
Gail Santini	Trustee - 1 year, Newsletter Editor and Photographer
Melissa Dolton	Trustee - 1 year, Newsletter Committee
Kevin Horgan	Trustee - 1 year, Facebook Administrator
Mary Lathrop	Refreshments Chairperson
Ilene Shatkin	Silent Auction Committee Chairperson
Mike Vaupel	AOS Representative

JANUARY PHOTOS:





AOS Corner

★ 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

- ★ **Sobralia** (so-BRAL-ee-ah) A distinctive genus of 95 species of terrestrial and lithophytic orchids from Mexico, Central and South America, it is characterized by its reedlike stems, plicate leaves and Cattleya-like flowers; it was founded in 1794 by Ruiz and Pavon in honor of the Spanish physician Dr. Francisco Sobral.
 - ★ If you hear a term during a presentation and don't know the meaning, you can get your answers in this [Orchidist's Glossary](#).
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