

Flamingo gardens

ORCHID SOCIETY

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society

JANUARY 2026

Meet our Guest Speaker: Cheryl Erins

Meeting Information

Monday, January 12, 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>

Growing Vandals: Understanding Their Growth Habits

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

Cheryl Erins, the current President of the American Orchid Society, is a longtime orchid grower, AOS-certified judge, and active leader in the Chicago Judging Center. She is also a Past President of the Mid-America Orchid Congress and previously served as President of the Batavia Orchid Society. Cheryl enjoys sharing her expertise with orchid groups across the country and has traveled to Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Malaysia, Taiwan, and many locations throughout North America to deepen her knowledge of orchids. She will also attend the World Orchid Conference in Dresden, Germany, in 2026.



Cheryl will present "Growing Vandals: Understanding Their Growth Habits." As part of her presentation, she will also share information about the American Orchid Society and its mission.



V Viboon Sunset
'Spotted Tangerine'

V Miss Joaquim

V Pachara Delight
'Isabella'

President's Message



Welcome to 2026!

Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society

Celebrating a new year of learning, growing, and blooming together.

2025 was a wonderful year for FGOS. We opened the year with Orchids of Ecuador, moved on to Dendrobiums, Encyclias, Rio Negro Orchid Adventures, Pests and Diseases, to Mounting Orchids, Coryanthes, Guaranthe aurantiaca, then on to Developing an Orchid Collection, and to the Giant World of Miniature Orchids. In between our regular monthly meetings, we had a successful Orchid Show in April, a Potting Workshop in June and a VERY Successful Auction in August enabling us to meet our pledge to Flamingo Gardens toward the development of a new Welcome Center.

In September we visited two of our FGOS Members' Orchid Gardens, and in November went to three more. It was fun and exciting to visit fellow hobbyist's gardens to see their setup and learn more about their orchid growing area. In November, we helped to support the animals at Flamingo Gardens by participating in the Walk in the Wild and reaching our donation goal and more..

In December we celebrated the Holidays together at our annual member's party. We recognized all of our volunteers who step up throughout the year to help to plan and execute our meetings, programs and events and those who helped to plan and coordinate all that goes into a beautifully executed celebration party. Our volunteers give their time and support throughout the year and this year they had the opportunity to select their gift of an orchid first.

We awarded Tom Nordman for having the most Ribbons won in 2025 for Member's Choice!

We recognized those who rose to the challenge of creating a tabletop display for the first time at our annual Orchid Show with FGOS Certificates of Appreciation: Annette Scardina, Wendy Gonzalez, David Sweeten & Traci Slusher, Lucy Matos-Lodato & Melissa Dolton, and Jessica Pajares!

We awarded two of our outstanding FGOS members with the American Orchid Society Certificate of Appreciation for their service and commitment to Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society - Thad Bielecki and Frank Tastinger.

And lastly, Lucy Matos-Lodato was recognized for her Service, Passion and Dedication to Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society with a crystal award.

As we step into a new year together, may our orchids thrive, our curiosity grows, and our community continue to flourish. Let's make the most of 2026!

Happy New Year to All! *Alice*



C. leuddemanniana

→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

→ If you see someone you haven't met yet at one of our meetings, please take a moment to introduce yourself.

Annette Scardina, Membership Chair

→ WELCOME FGOS NEWBIES!

Newbies meet before the FGOS meeting begins, 6:45 - 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 January discussion topic is "What Your Orchid Roots Are Trying to Tell You."

Come for the friendship, Learn some great orchid tips!

Diane Rogers
Newbie Session Moderator
Flamingo Gardens Orchid Society Corresponding Secretary



2026 ORCHID EVENTS

January 9-11/26	Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society's "Orchid Magic" Charles F Dodge City Center, 601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines FL
January 10-11/26	Sarasota Orchid Society Show & Sale Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, 801 N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota FL
January 16-18/26	Miami Orchid Society "Tamiami International Orchid Festival" Miami-Dade County Fair & Expo Center 10901 SW 24 St, Miami
January 31	Flamingo Gardens Education Department presents: Easy Moveable Orchid Mounting Workshop Saturday 1:30-3:30 Flamingo Gardens Learning Center Instructors: Lucy Matos Lodato and Alice Walker from the Flamingo Gardens Orchidteers
February 7-8	Venice Area Orchid Society Show & Sale Venice Community Center 326 S Nokomis Ave, Venice, FL
February 9	FGOS presents: Jason Mackey: Fragrance & Form: How <i>Brassavola nodosa</i> Shaped Modern Hybrids
February 20-22	Naples Orchid Society's "Orchid Rodeo" Naples Botanical Garden 4820 Bayshore Drive, Naples, FL
March 6-8	Martin County Orchid Society's "Orchids at the Disco" Martin County Fairgrounds, Bldg G, 2616 SE Dixie Hwy, Stuart, FL
March 9	FGOS presents: Mark Margolis: Catesetums
March 20-22	Gulf Coast Orchid Alliance's "Orchid Jungle" N Collier Regional Park, 15000 Livingston Rd, Naples, FL
CALENDAR OF EVENTS - AOS	Community Orchid Events



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→ 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

2025 Holiday Party Photos

[See more photos on our website](#)





★ **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

★ **Vanda** (VAN-da) A genus of about 50 showy epiphytic orchids of monopodial habit found in the Asiatic tropics, it was described by Jones in 1795, the name being derived from the Sanskrit for the orchid *Vanda tessellata*.

★ 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...



[JANUARY 2026 AOS CORNER](#)