

CLUB NEWS



Fred Clarke

October 23, 2008 Bonus Monthly Meeting

Lola Stark,
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The meeting was called to order by President Mike Heinz at 7:30 with 46 people present. Kaycee Heinz of the Welcome Table announced seven

members of the Gainesville Orchid Society who had come to see the program along with visitors Harold and Joy McCormick and Lena Hadley. Mike thanked Barbara Conrad and Jeanette Smith for the outstanding array on the hospitality table.

Kaycee, the Exhibit Committee Chair for the Society, commended the entire group for the job done at the Gainesville Orchid Show where we won Second Place. She especially thanked Harriet and Mike Wright. Our display was outstanding and all those who participated should be thanked.

In Dick Roth's absence, Mike asked that everyone come to the show table and vote for their favorite orchid for the Member's Choice award, to be announced at the end of the meeting.

The Executive Committee has decided to have someone available at each meeting from 7 until 7:30 before the main meeting to answer any problem questions the members have. Please bring your plants and questions at that time. On 1 November, Dick Roth and Sue Bottom will join Barbara Conrad, Master Gardener, at Hagan Ace Hardware on US 1 South for help to the public for replanting and cultural problems. They will be there from 9 until noon.

On 9 November, Fred Keefer is having Open House at Del Rei Orchids in Flagler Estates. The entire

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November 4, 2008 Monthly Meeting

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The meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by President Mike Heinz, with 42 people present. Since it was election night, our numbers were down a bit. Three guests were introduced by the Welcome table and Mike thanked Barbara and Jeanette for the refreshments, reminding those present to please donate to help defray expenses.

Gail Marshall announced that Shirley Berglund has had to have a partial hip replacement and is recovering at the Ponce de Leon Nursing home on Old Moultrie Road. She slipped and fell while retrieving some of her vandas from her pond!

Mike asked that any suggestions or complaints be put in the box at the Welcome Table. Dick Roth asked everyone to please come forward and vote for a favorite orchid on the show table. We had quite a variety with approximately 24 plants to choose from.

Mike announced that if you had joined the AOS on the night that Frank Smith (AOS membership chairman) was here with Fred Clarke, your plant that Frank promised is in the kitchen. We have no list of who joined at that time, so please let Sue or Mike know so you can get your plant. Because of the mix-up, Frank has offered to have our society come to Krull-Smith in Apopka for a picnic fun day and tour of the facilities. We hope to go in February. Details will be forthcoming at a future time.

Haley Bastian talked about some of the books in the library which includes issues of Orchids from the AOS as well as beginner's books from Ortho and several others as well



Courtney Hackney

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Upcoming Events

November 2008

- 15 Keiki Club at the Starks
1-3 pm, Getting Your Orchids Ready for Winter

December 2008

- 6 Beginners Guide to Orchids
Presented by St Augustine Orchid Society Members
SE Branch of St Johns County Library, 1 to 3 pm
- 13 SAOS Christmas Auction
Moultrie Trails Clubhouse, 7 pm

January 2009

- 3-4 Sarasota Orchid Society Show
- 6 St Augustine Orchid Society Meeting
Venezuelan Cattleya Species
Presented by Michael Sinn, Canaima Orchids
- 10-11 Fort Pierce Orchid Show and Sale
Fort Pierce Community Center
- 16-18 Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society Show
War Memorial Auditorium
- 23-25 Manatee River Orchid Society Show
Manatee Civic Center
- 30-1 Tamiami Int'l Orchid Festival
Sunshine Pavillion Fair Expo Ctr, Miami

February 2009

- 3 St Augustine Orchid Society Meeting
Central American Orchid Tours
- 7-8 Venice Orchid Society Show
Venice Community Center
- 14-15 Miami Valley Orchid Society Show
Cox Arboretum
- 27-1 63rd Miami International Orchid Show
Sheraton Mart Hotel & Convention Ctr

March 2009

- 3 St Augustine Orchid Society Meeting
Master Gardeners & SAOS Members
Q&A, Repotting & Problem Plant Clinic
Ace on US 1, 9 am to noon
- 20-21 Englewood Area Orchid Society
United Methodist Church
- 20-22 Port St Lucie Orchid Society Show
Port St Lucie Community Center
- 21-22 Jacksonville Orchid Society Show
Garden Center
- 27-29 Naples Orchid Society Show
United Church of Christ
- 28-29 Orchid Society of Highlands County Show
Lake Placid

December 13 SAOS Christmas Auction

We will be holding our annual Christmas orchid auction at 7 pm Saturday night, December 13th, at the Moultrie Trails Clubhouse located at 121 Crooked Tree Trail. Barbara's husband Billy is deep frying turkeys and all members are encouraged to bring a dish to round out the meal as well as your beverage of choice. You will be bidding on a nice variety of different types of orchids, an advance listing of the plants will be distributed to whet your appetite. Note that the meeting date has changed (from the first Tuesday to December 13th) as has the meeting location (Moultrie Trails Clubhouse instead of Watson Realty). We'll see you there!

Thanks to Watson Realty
and Jeanette Smith for the
use of their meeting space
at 3505 US 1 South



St Augustine Orchid Society Organization

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October Greenhouse Tour at the Keiki Club Reading Your Plant Label

Our October Keiki Club get together included a tour of Mike and Harriet Wright's greenhouse where some very interesting paphiopedilums and cactastinae plants were in bloom. As an added bonus, Mike gave a presentation on how to read your plant label. Click on the [First Rays explanation](#) for more information. Basically, your plant tag contains information to identify the heritage of your plant. The first name on your tag is the genus name, always capitalized, a genus being a grouping of similar type plants. The second part of the plant tag lists the species or hybrid name.

- A species is a genetically unique group of plants. The plant name is always lower case. If you have a plant tag with *Cattleya walkeriana*, you know the plant is in the genus *Cattleya* and it is the species *walkeriana*. The plant may



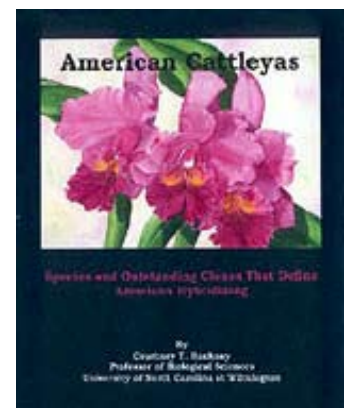
SAOS Exhibit at Gainesville Show

The SAOS took second place in Society exhibits at the Gainesville Show, Jacksonville got the first place ribbon and Gainesville got the AOS trophy. Harriet Wright did a fabulous job with her capable assistants Mike Wright and Gail Marshall and an extensive support staff, all organized by Exhibit Chair Kaycee Heinz. Thanks to Lola Stark, Dick Roth, Gil and Ellen Roehrig, Dave and Veronica Rickles, Bob Martin, Paul and Teddie Jones, Mike Heinz, and Terry and Sue Bottom for all the hard work, not to mention our orchid growers. We counted 28 ribbons on the display!

On 9 November, Fred Keefer is having Open House at Del Rei Orchids in Flagler Estates

What's New in the Library

Courtney Hackney spent years assembling his book with input from some of the best-known names in cattleyas. A third of the book is devoted to a pictorial chronicle of great American cattleyas with accompanying commentary, seldom told stories and the strategies and insights of the most influential hybridizers. The illustrations are presented in a sensible order, with accompanying commentary that sets them in their appropriate milieu.



Mike Wright explains how to read a plant label

be further subdivided into varieties, like *var. alba* or *var. coerulea*, that would indicate a white or blue color form.

- Hybrids occur in nature but are more commonly made by people. A hybrid name is capitalized. If you have a plant tag with *Cattleya Walkerinter*, you know the plant is a hybrid, in this case a primary hybrid between *C. walkeriana* and *C. intermedia*. The grex name *Walkerinter* would include any plant whose parents are *C. walkeriana* and *C. intermedia*.

- Sometimes a specific plant of a given species or hybrid is so unique that it is assigned a cultivar (or clonal) name by the hybridizer or as a result of its being awarded by the AOS or similar organization. In that case, the cultivar name is given in single quotations and if the plant has won an award, the award type and awarding body is given, like AM/AOS is an Award of Merit from the American Orchid Society. As an example, *C. Walkerinter 'Mt. Vernon Crystal'* HCC/AOS is the awarded hybrid and any vegetative divisions or meristemmed clones derived from this one plant would also carry this same name.



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membership is welcome from noon until 4 and Fred is planning to have food and wine as well as lots of gorgeous orchids! Take advantage of this opportunity to see how a professional grows his orchids. He asks that everyone bring a new or gently used toy for a donation to underprivileged kids in Hastings.

On 15 November the Keiki Club will meet at the home of Lola Stark, 3136 Country Creek Lane, for several short lectures on Getting Ready for Winter. Lola will talk about winter Vanda care, Paul will talk about getting your Phals to spike, Mike will talk about which Dendrobiums like a cold, dry winter and Sue will talk about the cold hardiness of Cattleyas and letting your Catasetums go dormant. All members are welcome. Please bring chairs to sit in!

Our program for the evening was by Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in California who graced us with another program because he's here for the Slipper Orchid Symposium in Orlando. We are so lucky to have him! He spoke on Mini and Midi Cattleyas which he considers to be particularly suited for orchid hobbyists.

Why grow them! They are space saving. You can get more plants per square foot than with other cattleyas. They have a wide range of color and form and are more frequent bloomers. Most of them have been bred to bloom at least twice during the year, spring and then again in the summer. They are adaptable to a wide range of growing conditions.

Which species have been used in the growing of these mini and midi cattleyas? *Cattleya walkeriana* which passes on its twice a year blooming and typically has pink and white forms, as well as its fragrance. *C. luteola* is used for its adaptability. It likes warm nights and low light as do the phals. It usually passes on its wide spread petals and crisp lip. *Laelia pumila* is used to pass on its tubular and dark lip. *Soph. coccinea* has passed on its red color and good shape (round petals and narrow lip)

C. intermedia is used as a mid-size parent. It is a 12" plant with vigor. *C. intermedia* var. *aquinii* passes along its lip color to the petals creating what hybridizers call splash colors. *L. briegeri*, naturally grows on rock faces in Brazil has been used



C. walkeriana



C. intermedia aquinii SVOHCC

because it can withstand wide ranges of temperature, from 30 degrees at night to 90 during the day.

Using all these species, hybridizers have come up with magnificent primary hybrids. A primary hybrid is a cross between two species. These are the backbone of breeding for hybridizers. Each species has a trait to pass on and will establish its breeding trait and provide predictable results, and the combination of the two species usually exhibit hybrid vigor. Each cross is done to get a particular result which can then be used to get further crosses. Sc Beaufort (a primary cross between *S. coccinea* and *C. luteola*) for example (and we had to laugh at Fred for his pronunciation of Beaufort - "Bofort" instead of "Bufort" - definitely not a Southerner!) has been used to pass along a rounded flower form, its sunset colors, its size and the fact that it blooms twice a year. Fred showed us numerous hybrids which trace their ancestry to Sc Beaufort. Included were Slc. Dream Catcher, Slc. Seagull, Slc. Ann's Beau (which is rightly pronounced "Bo"), Slc. Dream Weaver, and Slc. Mango Spice and many others.



Sc. Beaufort
'Big Circle'

C. walkeriana has given us Lc. Rosie's Surprise, Lc. Blue Dynasty, Lc. Memoria Robert Strait, and Lc. Carmela's Tropical Beauty. Lc. Mini Purple has passed along its exposed column in many newer hybrids and Slc. Bright Angel has been used to give us full flower form, its deep red color, mini to midi size plants, handling of heat and blooming times twice a year. Fred showed us many, many crosses he's made over the years and some he had for us to have. He mentioned that Blc. Toshie Aoki, contrary to what is usually done, can only be transplanted directly after blooming, as will any of its descendants. The Spotted Cattleyas can be traced back to Lc. Jungle Elf.



Lc. Mini Purple
'Bonanza'

As far as culture is concerned, Fred recommends that you water your plants heavily by leaching once a month (filling the container with water and letting it flow out the bottom). Good irrigation will give you better plants. If a cattleya feels dry, water it the next day! Most cattleyas will tolerate going to 40 at night and 80-90 during the day. Use 15-15-15 or 20-20-20 on the plants, but



Lc. Mini Purple
coerulea

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use only 1 tsp per gallon of any fertilizer (that's usually 1/3 of what the label calls for). For media he recommends 50% diatomite, 50% bark, but has also uses tree fern and Aliflor. He feels that most orchids need some organic material to grow in. He recommends repotting when new roots start to grow, not when you're getting new growth. Don't overpot plants. Allow for 3 years growth and don't worry about being meticulous in taking all the old media out (unless it has rotted). Just pick out the plant and dislodge that media that can be easily removed but don't disrupt the roots unnecessarily. Position the old parts of the plant nearest the edge of the pot. Don't compress the media with a stick, it tends to break tender roots. Just push down with your thumb. Put the older part of the rhizome as close to the edge of the pot as possible and direct the lead rhizome to the center of the pot where it has the most room to grow. He also recommended replacing old tags and putting in new tags with the repotting date on it.

It was a wonderful program and everyone felt they'd learned a great deal. Following a short intermission, we had our show table favorite and Member's Choice was the primary hybrid of *B. nodosa* x *L. tenebrosa* brought in by Maria Yessian. Our raffle and auction followed and we called it a night at 9:30.



C. walkeriana flamea
'SVO'

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as Mary Noble's books. The list is on the library page of the website (www.staugorchidsociety.org) and if you will e-mail Haley, she'll bring your book or magazine to the next meeting. You are expected to keep the books for a month and return them at the next meeting.

On 9 November, Fred Keefer is having an open house at his home in Flagler Estates from one to four. The address is 4270 Cedar Ford Blvd. He's planning on having refreshments and music as well as lots of gorgeous orchids. Please bring a toy for the under privileged kids in Hastings.

On 15 November, the Keiki club will meet at Lola Stark's home. The theme is "Getting Ready for Winter." The address is 3136 Country Creek Lane. If you need directions, call 797-2361.

On 6 December, the Southeast Library in conjunction with the St. Augustine Orchid Society is hosting an Orchid Workshop for Beginning Orchid Growers from 1-3 pm. We will be having orchid lectures, question and answer sessions and tabletop presentations for any interested person.

We will have our annual Christmas Auction on December 13 at the Moultrie Trails Clubhouse. Barbara and Billy Conrad are planning to deep fry a couple turkeys, so plan to bring a covered dish and bring lots of loot for the auction.

Our speaker for the evening was Dr. Courtney Hackney who is a professor at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville and one of our members. He gave a fascinating presentation on *Cattleya* hybridizing during the 20th Century, explaining how the hybridizers developed the best white, fall lavender, spring lavender, pink, white, green and coerulea corsage type *Cattleyas*.

He explained that each species of *Cattleyas* has its own form. He showed, as an example, flowers with thin sepals and petals that did not overlap, giving the flower poor form. Hybridizers prefer wide, flaring, roundish petals that overlap the sepals. The petals are the part of the flower that make a triangle with the lip of an orchid; the sepals are the three behind the petals that are always identical. When choosing what orchids to cross, hybridizers pick species that have traits that they wish to pass on and then try to put this trait with



C. trianaei



Fred Clarke admires a *Jacktonia cravallus* 'Gigantis' SAOS

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Growing Tips for November



By
Courtney T. Hackney
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Most orchids grown by hobbyists are tropical in nature. That term was once thought to mean “hot and steamy” and tens of thousands of orchids

imported to Europe in the 19th Century perished as a result. Many tropical orchids prefer cool nights because they or their ancestors evolved in higher tropical elevations or were subjected to cool breezes during the day. There are some species that do come from hot and steamy places and the challenge for orchid hobbyists is to grow them all in one place, whether it is a windowsill or greenhouse.

Commercial orchid nurseries and large private collections often have individual growing areas devoted to orchids that derive from different tropical habitats. Cymbidiums prefer and even require cool temperatures to flower well. Many claim that they flower best when nighttime temperatures reach near freezing. *Laelia anceps* also prefers these cool night temperatures and it is common to find them with Cymbidiums in California. While *L. anceps* and members of the *Cymbidium* genus are not related, they come from similar habitats and so require similar growing conditions.

At the other end of the spectrum are species that come from tropical lowlands. Many *Phalaenopsis* species come from parts of the world where temperatures are always warm to hot and these



Brassolaeliacattleya ‘George King’
 by Rose Ganuchau

species not only tolerate, but grow best when both day and night temperatures are warm. There are, however, other members of the *Phalaenopsis* genus that come from the foothills of the Himalayas and do not tolerate hot steamy conditions. Some would grow best with cymbidiums in a cool house. Thus, simply knowing the name of a group of orchids does not always inform one of the best temperature in which to grow an individual orchid.

This time of year most hobbyists are temperature

conscious, especially those who grow outdoors for part of the year. How much cold will my orchids tolerate is a common question? Of course, there is no simple answer to that question given the previous discussion. No tropical orchid though should be allowed to freeze or be exposed to freezing conditions. Even those few species that come from climates where freezes are common suffer. In Nature, these species often have protected tubers or bulbs under the soil or dead leaves. A hobbyist in North Carolina once reported finding an equitant oncidium flowering in spring among leaves where it had fallen the previous summer during a



Sophrolaeliacattleya ‘Jillian Lee’
 by Rose Ganuchau

hurricane; surviving a winter with temperatures below 20 F protected by dead leaves that had accumulated.

Cymbidiums are often seen with frost on their leaves, but frost can occur at temperatures much warmer than the freezing point. When the temperature within an orchid leaf goes below the freezing point, water in leaves forms crystals that tear plant cells, killing them. The next day when the temperature warms, leaves turn to mush as bacteria and fungi invade the broken cells. Obviously, other types of plants can survive freezing temperatures and do so by adding substances to their cells that either prevent crystal formation or lower the freezing temperature.

The only exception to orchids dying when frozen seems to arise when orchids are dehydrated. Under these conditions sugars and other dissolved materials within the cells are concentrated and prevent crystals from forming. There are numerous accounts of hobbyists returning home, after a sudden emergency to find their orchids still alive, despite no heat in sub-freezing conditions. A number of Chinese wholesale nurseries even intentionally dehydrate blooming sized phalaenopsis to the point where they can be rolled up and placed in small tubes for shipping to Europe and the U.S. This not only greatly reduces shipping costs, but almost eliminates the danger of freezing in the unheated cargo areas of jets. Once they arrive, they are potted in sphagnum and re-hydrated without damage to tissues.



Orchid Questions & Answers

Where Members Share Experiences

Sue Bottom, sbottom15@bellsouth.net

Q. I remember one of our speakers saying that we need to dry out our some Dendrobiums in the fall and winter. When do I start? How can I tell one Dendrobium from another?



A. Great question. The first thing you have to do is figure out what type of Dendrobium you have. The big box stores normally stock the Phalaenopsis type Dendrobiums, so named because the flower is similar to a Phalaenopsis flower. These types of Dendrobiums are treated similarly to Cattleyas, they do not require a cold dry winter rest period, although most plants slow their growth in winter requiring less fertilizer and water. For the more unusual Dendrobiums, you are going to have to check your plant label. If it is a species, cross check it against the Dendrobium Culture spreadsheet on the culture page of the website to see what section it belongs to and what its winter care requirements are. If it is a hybrid, you can email me the name of the plant and I will check its genealogy in OrchidWiz and let you know whether or not it requires a cold, dry winter to best flower.

Q. My Dendrobium looks like it needs to be repotted. How can I tell for sure? What's the best potting mix for Dendrobiums?

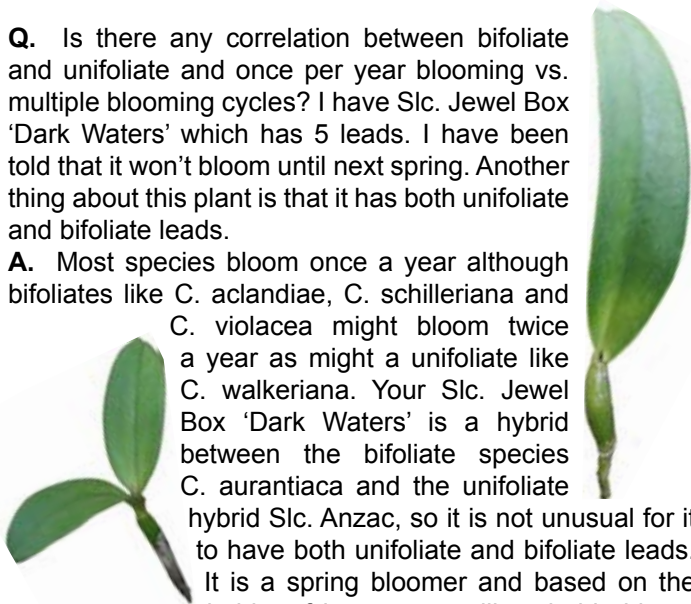


A. Most Dendrobiums like being root-bound and dislike having their roots disturbed. These two facts both suggest the best potting medium is one that will not decompose easily, so bark and sphagnum moss are not the potting media of choice. A better mix would be one with aliflor, charcoal, sponge rock and tree fern (or coconut husk if you can't find tree fern). Don't repot your Dendrobiums unless you have a reason to repot them. The best reason to repot is if the potting mix is decomposing, which if left in place will likely rot the roots along with the mix. This is easy to tell if you push your finger into the pot and the media feels moist and it tends to hold water. If the plant has become unruly and is pushing out of the pot, wait until the new roots are getting ready to grow and

emerge from the lead cane. Then you can repot with the least potential for transplant shock because the new roots will establish the plant quickly.

Q. Is there any correlation between bifoliate and unifoliate and once per year blooming vs. multiple blooming cycles? I have Slc. Jewel Box 'Dark Waters' which has 5 leads. I have been told that it won't bloom until next spring. Another thing about this plant is that it has both unifoliate and bifoliate leads.

A. Most species bloom once a year although bifoliate like *C. aclandiae*, *C. schilleriana* and *C. violacea* might bloom twice a year as might a unifoliate like *C. walkeriana*. Your Slc. Jewel Box 'Dark Waters' is a hybrid between the bifoliate species *C. aurantiaca* and the unifoliate hybrid Slc. Anzac, so it is not unusual for it to have both unifoliate and bifoliate leads. It is a spring bloomer and based on the habits of its parents will probably bloom once a year. With 5 new leads, it should be spectacular when it comes into bloom!



Dendrobium nobile by M Gauca circa 1837
Courtesy of Missouri Botanical Gardens



What's in Bloom

By
Paul Jones
trjones_99@yahoo.com

Email me the pictures you take of your plants and be sure to include a brief description of how you grow them and any other interesting tidbit you wish to share. Every orchid has a story to tell and a history behind it!



Bill Roth's *Vanda luzonica* is a warm grower from the island of Luzon in the Philippines found at elevations of about 1,500 feet. The inflorescences reach up to 16 in long and can produce anywhere from 10 up to 25 large, waxy and fragrant flowers.



Bob Martin's *B. nodosa* x *Lc. Blueboy* is a fascinating attempt to produce a blue 'nodosa hybrid'. The pollen parent *Lc. Blue Boy*, registered in 1960 by B.O. Bracey, was the first successful blue *Cattleya* hybrid and has set guidelines for breeding medium sized blues.



Paul Jones' *Odm. Amulet*, a primary hybrid (*bictoniense* x *cirrhosum*), has 4 separate spikes and about 40 flowers. *Odontoglossums*, in the *Oncidium Alliance*, are cool growers from the high altitude mountain cloud forest of Central and South America. The genus is not usually considered to be well suited to Florida's hot summers, but this primary hybrid apparently has not heard that!



Our member at large in New Jersey, Helen O'Brien, sent along lovely pictures of three of her recently blooming beauties. The *Cattleya* is *Lc. Moonwind* (*Eva Shill* x *Elizabeth Off*), the *Zygo* hybrid is a stunning *NOID*, and the robust *Beallara Marfitch* "Howard's Dream" is a popular *Oncidium Alliance* intergeneric hybrid. We will see charter members Helen and husband Jim in February for their annual month long visit to St. Augustine.



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Mike Wright's Bulb. Michael Wright is a primary hybrid (*carunculatum* x *dearei*) made by Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids. This fall blooming hybrid inherited its sequential blooming pattern from the *carunculatum* and the red spots are from the *dearei* parent. It will produce several brightly colored, spotted flowers over about a month's time. Mike was the first grower to bloom it and so Fred registered the hybrid in Mike's name.



Gail Marshall's *C. intermedia* v. *amethystina* x Bl. Morning Glory was a birthday present from me to me that I repotted into coconut husks, aliflor, charcoal and osmunda fiber. I gave it much more light this year and was well rewarded with 22 glorious blooms. Light, water and fertilizer, they're all important, but I totally believe that light is the most important aspect of the three. Without good light, the plant just won't bloom. Fertilizer - Algoflash.

traits from other species in order to get a particular form or color in the flower. Early hybridizers felt that *C. trianaei* had the best form, and they attempted to pass this form onto the next generation. *C. labiata* has large flowers, blooms in the fall and passes this trait onto its offspring. *C. warscewiczii* passes on its ability to produce lots of flowers (up to 12) and blooms in the summer.



C. labiata



C. dowiana var *aurea*

C. mossiae blooms in the spring. Each of these traits were important to early hybridizers because they did not know about chromosomes. In many cases, the best example of a primary cross turned out to be a tetraploid, thus giving it more chromosomes to be passed on. *C. dowiana* var *aurea* passes on its veined lip. Spring lavenders were produced largely from *C. mossiae*, *C. trianaei* and *L. purpurata* and fall lavenders came from *C. dowiana* and *C. labiata*. The pinks came through *B. digbyana*, but the *digbyana* usually had only one flower per stem, so it was crossed further with *C. warscewiczii* to increase the flower count. The yellows almost always have *L. xanthina* in their ancestry, along with *L. flava*, *L. tenebrosa*, but *C. dowiana*, *C. bicolor* and *C. aurantiaca* have all contributed. The soft yellows will come from *B. digbyana*, and the true reds will have *Sophronis coccinea* ancestors. The coerulea or indigo cattleya forms can be found in most species and have been passed down through the years, but their form has never been as good as the best white cattleyas. Most have some *Laelia*. The now popular green cattleyas will come through the yellows or will have *C. bicolor*, *C. forbesii*, *C. granulosa*, *C. guttata* or *C. leopoldii* in their ancestry.



C. leopoldii

If you are interested in learning more about the hybridizing of cattleyas, may this secretary suggest you read Dr. Hackney's book, *American Cattleyas*, which has a wonderful guide to hybridizing and even better pictures of early cattleyas as well as some of the newer ones. We have the book in the library.

Following the lecture and a short break, we had a monster raffle and auction. The show table winner was Lc *Netrasiri* 'Starbright' brought in by Dick Roth, and the grand raffle plant Blc. *Memoria Vida Lee* 'Limelight' from the raffle table was won by Lola Stark.



Gail Marshall

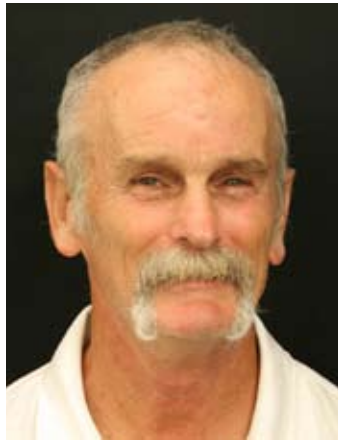
She's the cute blond in capris with a ready smile; Gail is a girl who just can't say no. She's been with SAOS since the beginning and is now the Chair of the Membership Committee, the Roving Reporter responsible for the Who's Who column of the newsletter (except for this ghosted column), and the author of the SAOS Orchid Happenings update



you receive monthly, not to mention the one that is picking your raffle tickets out of the hat every month. Gail hails from Motown, Detroit and its northern suburbs. After retiring as a clinical psychologist, she floated down to south Florida on a sailboat with the assistance of wind power. She did some TV production work (with Mr. Spock no less, after he lost the pointy ears) and finally settled in St. Augustine in 1999, which had been her second home since infancy. Gail is active in the community - is on the Board of Directors for the EMMA Concert Association, is president of Woodland Garden Circle and volunteers with fund raising for the Good Samaritan Wild Flower Clinic. Big showy cattleyas are her favorite orchid though the saucer vandas are right up there on her list. There are lots of things about Gail that might surprise you, though you'll have to crack open a bottle of red to find out the details!

Gil Roehrig

It's been said that golf, like orchids, is an addiction. It must be true, because Gil Roehrig actually moved over a thousand miles to make it a daily part of his life. Originally from New Hampshire, Gil worked as a mechanic for UPS for 20 years. He also caddied for a friend who was a golf pro and planned to go on the PGA tour - with Gil.



That plan didn't work out, but with golf in his blood, Gil, and wife Ellen, moved to Ponte Vedra where he is Senior Mechanic at the Plantation of Ponte Vedra, and the golf course remains snow free 12 months a year. His interest in orchids started through Ellen, a long-time gardener and orchid grower. She had a particular phal that just would not

bloom. He offered to help, figured out it was the light, fixed it, and the second addiction began. The phal did bloom, by the way, for 5½ months. He and Ellen now have about 90 plants that they grow outside under shade screen and in winter, indoors under lights, all set up by Gil. Gil believes there are three things necessary in life: 1) rebloom a vanda, 2) rebloom a paph, and 3) Ellen. Both Gil and Ellen love SAOS and the people that make us such a great group. He says it's the relationships they've found here that encourage their hobby of orchids. Gil can build just about anything, and we'll see more of his creative work particularly in the structural backdrops and set ups for orchid shows.

Maryiln Costanzo

As an Adjunct Professor at FCCJ in the Nursing Department, Marilyn Costanzo is continuing her career specialization in Maternal / Child Care. Good thing. It's given her years of preparation for growing orchids. Marilyn was originally from the N.VA area just outside of Washington D.C. where she thought of



growing orchids in that kind of cold as just too darn hard. Luckily, she discovered a terrestrial and said, "I can do dirt." She and husband Dick moved to St. Augustine in 2002, leaving 6 orchids behind in the care of her daughter (who promptly killed them). In 2006, Marilyn saw Paul Jones' blurb in the Record seeking people interested in orchids and came to our first SAOS meeting, which ended up being in the parking lot of the St. Augustine Lighthouse. When she saw that bunch, standing there in the dark, so excited about orchid possibilities, she said, "This is my kind of group." And so it goes. Marilyn most loves which ever of her orchids is growing the best at any given time. She has the most success with dendrobiums but wants to deepen her expertise with phals. She says every time she sees orchids, she must have one of whatever she's seeing. Marilyn and Dick live backed up to a nature preserve in Palencia, half way to Jacksonville where it's a bit colder than here in St. Aug. They currently have a mister on their porch and are working on a plan for a new deck that will accommodate their orchids. Dick has made stands with clips to hold orchids in winter in their Florida room. Marilyn's most current investment is this year's orchid book - Marie Selby Botanical Gardens (Sarasota, FL) Illustrated Dictionary of Orchid Genera. And surprise, surprise. Marilyn sang for 18 years with the Sweet Adeline's and International Gold Medal Chorus of 140 women.



SHOW TABLE



Grower Courtney Hackney
Blc Goldenzelle x self



Grower Dick Roth
S cernua



Grower Shirley 'Daisy' Thompson
Paph appletonianum x
Paph wolterianum



Grower Mike & Kaycee Heinz
Bulb Louis Sanders



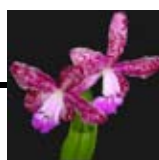
Grower Maria Yessian
B nodosa x L tenebrosa



Grower Marv & Jan Ragan
Lc Norma Jean Schneider [pink blush]



Grower Marv & Jan Ragan
C jenmanii 'Mantellini' AM/AOS x self



SHOW TABLE



Terry Bottom

Grower Sue Bottom
Blc Christ Church 'Mendenhall Snow'



Terry Bottom

Grower Dick Roth
Lc Netrasiri Starbright



Terry Bottom

Grower Dick Roth
Lc Little Marmaid



Terry Bottom

Grower Sue Bottom
Blc Ports of Paradise 'Emerald Isle' AM/AOS



Terry Bottom

Grower Mike & Kaycee Heinz
Blc Goldenzelle 'Taida'



Terry Bottom

Grower Sue Bottom
C Purity var coerulea x L purpurata var Werkhauseri

