

CORAL SPRINGS ORCHID SOCIETY



JULY 2019

Volume 19



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July 15th Speaker - Prem Subrahmanyam Sr

Prem will speak on "Common Native Orchids of Florida" Prem became interested in orchids at a young age in his boyhood home in Tallahassee, Florida. This was the beginning of a life-long passion for this amazing family of plants. He soon located native orchid species growing in wild areas near his boyhood home, launching a journey of discovery of Florida's amazing native orchids, including the rare and elusive Ghost Orchid. Moving to central Florida in 2005, he has expanded his exploration to central and south Florida, where he can often be found hiking out into the wild with his wife, Joy, and/or a few of their fifteen children in tow as photographer's assistants.

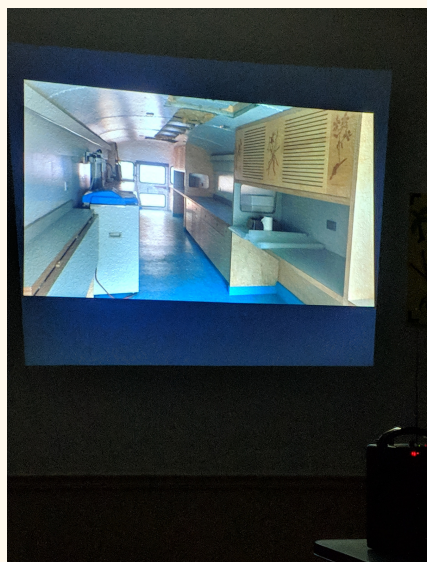
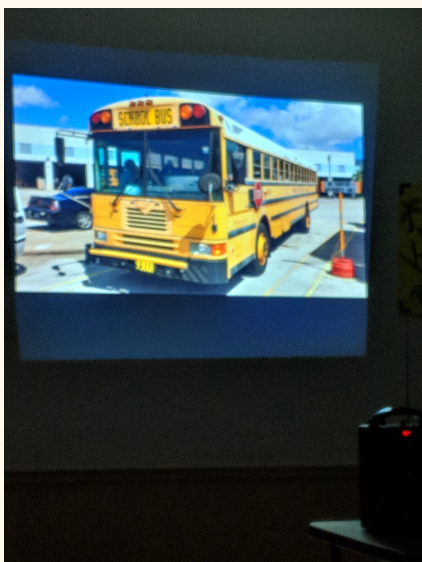
He has spent some thirty years tracking down species both common and rare within the wilds of Florida, armed with his camera and a sharp eye. Many of these photographs appear, along with detailed information on Florida's orchid species, on a website that he personally founded and maintains:
www.flnativeorchids.com.

see his *Dendrophylax lindenii* time lapse video 2019 - ghost orchid shared by Prem on the CSOS FB page & also on our CSOS website.



Our JUNE Meeting - Dr Jason Downing

Despite the bad weather, we had a great turnout to hear Dr. Jason Downing, Orchid Biologist from the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. Jason gave a fantastic lecture & slide presentation on The Million Orchid Project. This is Fairchild's project to reintroduce Florida's rare & endangered native orchids into South Florida's environments. It was very interesting how they have involved the help of thousands of students from local schools. Fairchild has been generating large quantities of these orchid plants from seed. They are now propagating with the goal to reestablish them within South Florida's public landscapes, around schools, on street trees, and in city parks.



Special "Shout Outs!"

We want to thank our new June member, Minnelli France, for bringing the orchid cupcakes for our refreshment table! How beautiful they were & yet so delicious!! Thank you Minnelli for your thoughtfulness & welcome to CSOS!



Jennifer & Sue working the raffle table.

DID YOU KNOW??

YOU CAN EARN A FREE RAFFLE TICKET BY:

- 1) wearing your name badge at each meeting
- 2) donating a refreshment item
- 3) bring in a new member

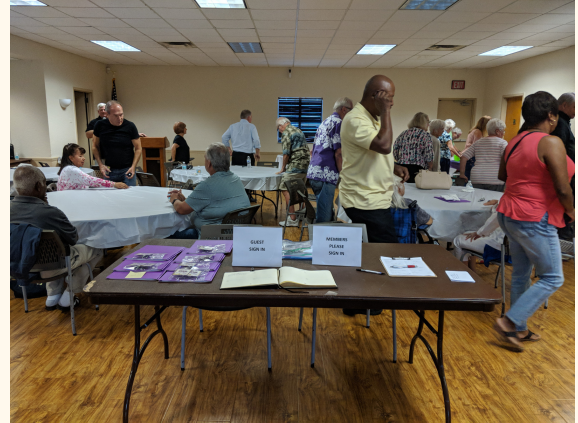
BE SURE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

Be sure to stop by our website & check it out! We think you will find it very informative. Be sure to check out the growing tip tab & be sure to click on each of the flowers. Love the butterflies??? click on them! Check our ramble videos - orchid videos - calendar of events & more! Don't forget the sponsor page! If you click on the business card, it takes you to that business's website. Its a great way to advertise your business for only \$25 for the year!

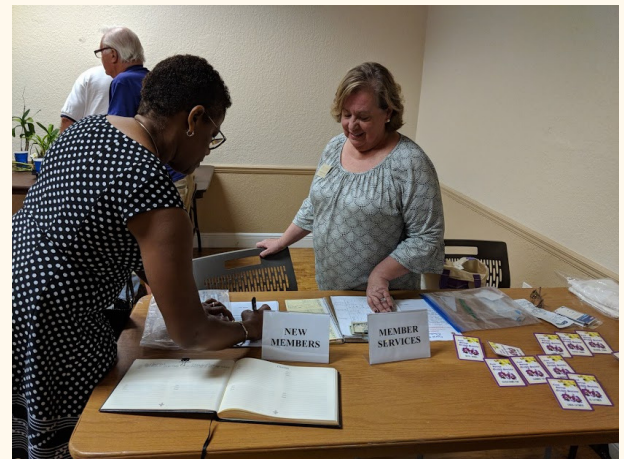
www.coralsspringsorchidsociety.org / check us out on Facebook & Youtube too!



We now have a member & guest "sign in" table located straight ahead as you walk in! Guests will be given a name tag to wear so everyone can welcome you. New Members/Renewals will at the table to the right just as you walk in the door. RoseMarie will ready to assist you.



Guest & Member sign in table



Rosemarie at the New Member & Renewal table



**IT'S A
GOOD DAY
TO HAVE A
GREAT
DAY!**

July in Your Orchid Collection by Dr. Martin Motes (with permission)

July Climate Data

Average high: 90.9

Average low: 76.5

Average mean: 83.7

Average rainfall: 5.79"



V. Erica Cizek Dann

Although it mostly passes unnoticed to millions locked in their air-conditioned bubbles, July in South Florida is quite different from June. While the pattern of afternoon showers built from the moisture of the morning's sea breeze persists in July, the thunder-storms are sharper and shorter. The clouds linger less and the foliage dries more quickly. Less quantity of rain falls in July than in June and periods of several days typically pass without a drop. This is good news for orchid growers. July (and August) allow orchidists to focus on the first essential of orchid growing, drying the plant out.

Frequently, neophyte growers ask "What if I go away for several weeks in the summer and there is no one to water the plants?" The response is "That's wonderful". Experienced growers use the break in the rainfall during July and August to dry their plants "hard". Depriving orchids of water for several days until they and the media or baskets they grow in are bone dry is essential to good orchid culture. By drying the plants hard, one deals a severe blow to orchids natural enemy, fungus. Orchids have evolved to withstand drought because fungus can not. During severe drought fungus' only defense is to cease all growth and retreat into a spore stage. Hopefully (and with good cultural management) these pathogens will not be aroused from this slumber until the first drizzle of September sets in, allowing our plants two months to mature and harden their growth making them less vulnerable to the September conditions which give some advantage again to the fungi.

Careful watering and judicious drying will do more than any other practice to ensure healthy plants. Drought is the orchid plants armor against disease. Be sure that your plants dry as completely as the weather of July permits. Nonetheless, as our plants are in full growth they need adequate water in July therefor after a hard drying, orchid plants need a thorough re-hydration. If the next rain fall is insufficient to saturate pot, roots and media, the grower should add to the natural moisture until he is sure both roots and media are saturated, using two or three applications of water spaced a few minutes apart. When the plants stop dripping is the time to apply the next dose of water. Don't stop watering until the "heft" of the pot tells you that it is holding as much water as it can. More typically in July, orchidists should use these opportunities when more moisture is required to substitute fertilizer for water and saturate the roots and the media in the same thorough manner. In July typically think of fertilizing rather than watering. Weekly application of a commonly available balanced fertilizer (20-20-20 or 18-18-18) at two teaspoons per gal. will supply the nutrients that our plants require in this period of lush growth. This balanced formula should be alternated every other week with potassium nitrate and Epsom salts (one tablespoon each) to supply the extra magnesium and potassium we now know are plants need on a regular basis.

July in Your Orchid Collection by Dr. Martin Motes (with permission) (continued)

Even better (although not so readily available) lower phosphorus fertilizers containing extra magnesium and calcium with a formula like Peter's Excel(15-5-15) have been shown to be the precise fertilizer our plants need. This formula is recommended year round. Hopefully such orchid specific fertilizers will become more widely available. Lowering the phosphorus intake of our plants is particularly important in South Florida because of our alkaline water. Always apply fertilizer in the same way as water, in two to three doses spaced a few minutes apart. Apply the fertilizer to the point of "run off" IE. when the solution starts to fall off the plants; stop and move on to the next plant. Repeat the application a few minutes later when the plants stop dripping. In July more than ever, never, never follow the frequently heard and disastrously bad advice of watering before fertilizing. Always substitute fertilizer for water: now and at every season. Roots saturated with water cannot absorb fertilizer but the prolonged wetness can rot your plants. Don't give fungus the upper hand by wetting the plant's foliage and roots more often or longer than necessary. Careful watering is especially important throughout the rainy season.

Add a little bit of body text

The wise orchidist will have long since finished all of his potting of sympodials and the top working of his vandas but for the rest of us this is the eleventh hour. Autumn is closer than we think and vandas will need at least three months to settle in to their new baskets or pots before the first chill of October tickles their root tips. Unless you can protect them thoroughly from cold, Vanda top cuttings and keikies should not be made after the end of July. If you do take cuttings remember the "3 root rule". Count down from the crown and make the cutting beneath the third or fourth root. Keep as many leaves as possible on the stump and you will be rewarded with a greater abundance of offshoots. Always slip the sterile knife or shears down between the stem and the leaves and then cut transversely to save as many leaves as possible. Be sure to anchor the cutting firmly in its new lodging. Tie them up and tie them down! There is no time for mistakes in July.

Thrips are much less of a problem in July as the rain tends to wash them away and doubtless there is an abundance of other lush fodder for them elsewhere in our yards. They can reappear in a prolonged patch of dryness, so if you need to think of watering in July it may be dry enough to worry about thrips. A prophylactic spraying for thrips in July will also put a damper on scale crawlers. If a second spraying with soap follows the first by seven to 10 days, the population of mites will be scotched as well.

Tasks for July

1. Dry plants hard once or twice.
2. Apply liquid fertilizer instead of water during dry patches.
3. Watch for thrips when rain has been sparse for several days.
4. Finish top cutting and planting of vandaceous genera.

Regrets: Motes Orchids is closed for the summer. See you in October!



CORAL SPRINGS ORCHID SOCIETY IS NOW AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY (AOS)

One of the primary benefits of being affiliated with the AOS is that meeting and contact information for each affiliate society is listed in the popular AOS Orchid Source Directory (which is disseminated every other year, free, to all AOS members) and also on the Society's Web site: www.aos.org Consider an individual membership! Check out the benefits!

OUR MEMBER BLUE RIBBON WINNERS REQUIREMENTS

Every month our members are encouraged to bring in their latest growing achievements for judging & possible ribbon awards! Make sure you fill out an exhibit form for your plant. It must be completed in full & **printed** so it can be read easily. All information must be completed in full for judging consideration! Make sure:

1. **Print the full name of the orchid & your full name**
2. **The orchid must be entered in the correct category**
3. ****You must have owned the orchid 6 months**
4. **Display your orchid in an attractive container**
5. ****Make sure your orchid is free of pests & disease****

Note on Culture Awards: This award is a reflection on the outstanding cultural practices of the grower! An eligible plant is one that stands out as grown to its fullest potential, in robust health, displaying an unusually high number of blooms. Cultural merit is not necessarily related to size; it is related to quality. This award is not necessarily given out each month.

THE "UFO" TABLE (UNIDENTIFIED FLOWERING ORCHIDS)

We now have a "UFO" table to display your unidentified flowering orchids" for possible identification. If your entry is properly identified, it may be moved into the proper category for judging. UFO plants will appear on our website.



DONATION BOX FOR HUMANE SOCIETY & ANIMAL CONTROL OF BROWARD COUNTY



REMINDER! Each meeting there will be a donation box by the information table for anyone to drop off any pet supplies ex: blankets/towels/cat litter/dog & cat food/harness/leashes etc. All donations will be given to BC Animal Control & the HSBC in the name of CSOS. Lets help those who can't help themselves.

REMEMBER YOU ARE ALWAYS INVITED...

Society members are always invited to sit in on the West Palm Beach Judging Center meeting. They hold monthly judging on the 4th Saturday of the month (3rd Saturday in December) at Flamingo Gardens, 3750 S. Flamingo Rd., Davie, FL.

Training begins at 12:30 PM
 Nominations begin at 2:00 PM
 Judging begins at 2:30 PM

The public is invited to observe the judging process. The West Palm Beach Judging Center of the American Orchid Society encourages everyone to bring orchids in for judging. It's a great way to learn about orchids, and most monthly meetings also include educational presentations. American Orchid Society & Flamingo Gardens Members are admitted free; complimentary participation for non-members with paid admission to Flamingo Gardens.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS & SPONSORS!

Your sponsorship will make it possible for us to expand our programming with more orchid related speakers as well as organize additional educational activities for the Society & the orchid community at large. Your advertisement will appear on our website through the newsletter, which is also distributed monthly to our members. **NEW! There is also a special section on our website where your business card will be displayed with the ability when one clicks on the business card it will direct you to your company's website!** You are also welcome to provide business cards or promotional material for display on our information table set up at each meeting!

If you would you like to advertise your business or services to our members and community for \$25 per year per business card, please contact RoseMarie, realtorz@bellsouth.net or Debbie, yorkierambo@bellsouth.net

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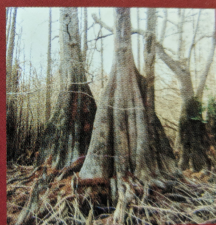
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73rd Miami International Orchid Show, Orchid Treasures, October 5th & 6th, 2019, 10:00am -5pm, Admission \$12.00 (children under 10- free) Watsco Center, University of Miami, 1245 Dauer Dr. Coral Gables, FL 33146



We want to hear from you! This is your society so your suggestions are welcome. Let us know if you would like to hear a lecture on a certain orchid, topic or speaker. If you are interested in hosting a ramble at your home. Contact Debbie - yorkierambo@bellsouth.net