

CLUB NEWS



Paul Storm

January 9 SAOS Monthly meeting

by Lola Stark

Our first meeting of the year was held on the second Wednesday so we could take advantage of having the same speaker as the Jacksonville Orchid Society had on the night before. Present were about 45 people including several guests. First Vice President Sue Bottom opened the meeting promptly at 7:30. Sue introduced the candidates for the offices for the new year. Ballots were passed out and while folks were voting, Sue talked about having an entry in the Easter Parade. No decision was made, but there seemed to be some interest.

The Daytona Orchid Show is February 23 to 24 at the Casements in Ormond Beach. We have signed up to have an exhibit. Dick Roth will be in charge. He passed out sign up sheets for those wanting to help set up the exhibit.

Lola Stark announced that those going to Miami to the World Orchid Conference on Jan 25 will meet at Watson's at 4 am to make the overnight trip.

Sue introduced Paul Storm who talked about Schomburgkias and Myrmecophilas. These are those orchids that have the wavy and curled petals and sepals. These orchids are in the Cattleya alliance and can be crossed with each genus in the family, e.g. Brassavola, Cattleya, Laelia, Sophronitis, Broughtonia, Encyclia and Epidendrum to name a few. Paul showed us each of the species of the Schomburgkias and Myrmecophilas and

then showed us some hybrids to see the variety of orchid crosses. There have been many changes made to the taxonomy of these two genres (and other is the Cattleya alliance) by the "naming committee" and Paul is not alone in his displeasure with these changes. These genera are native to Central and northern South America and different species of the genera can be found at different altitudes and climates. Some of the Myrmecophila species he mentioned were albopurpurea, brysiana, christinae, exaltata, galeottiana, grandiflora, humboldtii, sawyeri, thomsoniana, tibicinis and wendlandii. The Schomburgkias were moved into the Laelia genus. Some of the Laelias (Schomburgkias) discussed were crispa, elata, fimbriata, lueddemanii, lyonsii, moyobambae, rosea, schultzei, splendida, splendida var cauca, superbiens, and undulata. Some of these species can have inflorescences that are 8 feet tall.

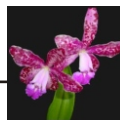
Most should be grown on slabs or in baskets as they require excellent drainage and air circulation. If you need to repot, be careful not to damage the roots to prevent transplant shock. When their new growth has matured for the year, they need a slight rest period.

Following the presentation, it was announced that the following officers have been elected: Mike Heinz, President; Sue Bottom, First Vice President; Vivienne Rowe, Second Vice President, Secretary, Lola Stark; Treasurer, Bill Gourley. Committee chairs will be designated by the new president.

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Paul & Mary Storm share their Schomburgkia Love





2008 Officers: Mike Heinz - president, Sue Bottom - 1st vice president, Vivienne Rowe - 2nd vice president, Bill Gourley - treasurer, Lola Stark - secretary.

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



Upcoming Events

- 1/23-27 19th World Orchid Conference Miami
- 1/25-26 2008 Tamiami International Orchid Festival, Dade County Fair Expo Center
- 2/1-3 Venice Area Orchid Society Show
Venice Community Center
- 2/5 SAOS Meeting
Jim Adamson - Phalaenopsis
- 2/9-10 Boca Raton Orchid Society Show
Safe Schools Institute
- 2/23-24 Daytona Beach Orchid Society Show
- 2/29-3/2 Fairchild International Orchid Festival
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
- 3/4 SAOS Meeting
Terry Bottom - Greenhouse Alternatives
- 3/7-9 Port St Lucie Orchid Society Show
Port St Lucie Community Center
- 3/14-16 Greater Pensacola Orchid Society Show
- 3/14-16 Naples Orchid Society Show
United Church of Christ

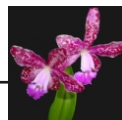
February 5 Monthly SAOS Meeting

Jim Adamson of Adamson Orchids will discuss Phalaenopsis culture at the February 5 SAOS meeting. Jim is the president of the Platinum Coast Orchid Society. He and his wife Betty Anne operate Adamson Orchids and they offer many beautiful plants for sale at our local shows. He plans to talk about growing Phalaenopsis orchids but can talk on virtually any subject. If you have any questions about your orchids, how to get them to rebloom, why your Zygopetalums are not flourishing or any other question under the sun, Jim is the man to ask! He will be bringing orchids for sale at the meeting. If you have any special requests, feel free to call him at 321-632-2847.

Visit [Http://www.staugorchidsociety.com](http://www.staugorchidsociety.com)

St Augustine Orchid Society Organization

President	Mike Heinz mgheinz@comcast.net
First VP Program Chair	Sue Bottom sbottom15@bellsouth.net
Second VP Publicity Chair	Vivienne Rowe tomvivrowe@bellsouth.net
Secretary	Lola Stark seacuter@bellsouth.net
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New Member Coordinator	Gail Marshall gwpb@aol.com
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Operations Chair	Jeanette Smith jesmith@watsonrealty.com
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Show Table Coordinator	Haley Bastian n1ghtm00n@hotmail.com





January in Your Orchid Collection

by Dr Martin Motes, Motes Orchids

Reprinted from his book, Florida Orchid Growing Month by Month, pages 58-64

January is somewhat like December but in reverse, with each succeeding day bringing longer hours of sunlight until days are long enough that afternoons return at the end of the month bringing extra sunshine to warm us after the extra sharp cold snaps. January, like December, is cold and dry, in fact even colder and drier. Dry is good, cold can be very bad. We need to accentuate the positive by especially careful watering in January. By keeping our plants as dry as possible and spacing our waterings as far apart as possible, we conserve our potential to use water to protect our plants from the cold, keeping our powder dry, as it were. In January water early, water thoroughly when you do and do so sparingly. The cooler overall temperatures of January are much less dehydrating even to plants which have received less water. Remember, many of our orchids come from seasonally dry and cool climates not so different from South Florida. Many orchids are equipped to handle the drier cooler conditions of our January. A good strategy is to "top-up" the light watering that our plants receive with the passing showers that each successive cold front brings. This slight additional irrigation may prove to be all the watering that many genera need. Such parsimony preserves the possibility of using water on truly cold nights to warm our plants.

Water is the only feasible source of heat available to plants grown in the open, under trees, in shade houses or on patios in South Florida. Ground water here (and in most of the rest of the world is about 63 F (16C). Water out of municipal systems is not far different. On truly cold nights turning on the water can be of great benefit to our plants, provided that they have not been over-watered in the days and weeks preceding, thus inviting the ever present fungi

to do more damage than the cold. For this reason as well, in general, orchids are better off dry until temperatures approach frost or freezing. The logic for maintaining plants dry is not only to minimize fungal problems but also because cold air is typically very dry air. If plants are wet in very dry and rapidly moving air say 10 or more mph, evaporative cooling can take place, chilling our orchids further and faster than they would if dry. When the water goes on it needs to be in heavy volume and it needs to stay on to keep the plants thoroughly bathed in its warmth. Very still air on the other hand, presents a different danger as frost is possible at temperatures higher than is commonly realized. In calm air frost can form at higher elevations and settle in on plants while the surface temperature is only in the upper 30's. The best forecast for nights when the temperature will hover near 40 is a light wind of 2-5 miles per hour. This light wind mixes the warm air near the surface and draws warm from the earth. Clear, cloudless, still nights with bright shining stars elevate the spirit but harbingers frost.

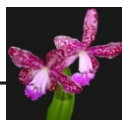
Forecasts of temperatures below 40 F should stimulate us to action. If it is not practical to bring all the vandas and hard cane dendrobiums into the house or garage, think of using water to help protect them. Shade cloth or even patio screen hold in a surprising amount of heat like a lacy Mantilla. Under screen, a fine mist head attached to a hose and left running beneath the bench or plant rack will provide several degrees of additional warmth that will often sufficiently temper the chill and ward of any light frost settling in. Growers with swimming pools frequently turn on the recirculating pump to keep a supply of warm water near the pool's surface where it can add heat to the ambient environment. A few degrees of warmth frequently makes all the difference to our sensitive orchids. In more open areas not protected by a permanent irrigation system, an oscillating sprinkler at the end of a garden hose is very effective in killing both adults and eggs and a second spraying is necessary to kill any survivors before

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Terry Bottom

Holcoglossum kimballianum x *V. lamellata*





V. Sarapee x Dr. Anek HCC/AOS

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start the water at bedtime and let it run until the sun is up. The extra water once or twice in a month will do no harm to orchids that have been properly and judiciously watered the remainder of the month. In fact, these occasions present the opportunity to be sure that excess fertilizer salts have been leached from the pots and medium. A good work can be born of necessity!

Remember that Himalayan dendrobiums and warm growing *Cymbidium* hybrids will positively relish temperatures down to 32F and a light frost is just the ticket for great bloom. Keep the water off these!

In the drought of January, mites, which affect nearly all genera of orchids, continue to be a serious problem that will only get worse. They will reach a crescendo in March and April but January is a good time to scotch them. *Paphiopedilum* and other softy leaved genera are particularly susceptible but no genus is free of them. One theory on why deciduous genera such as *Catasetum*, *Calanthe* and others lose their leaves hypothesizes that this totally rids them of mites.

Being totally rid of mites is a good thing! Sometimes this is easier said than done because mites reproduce with such voluminous speed. Their life cycle from egg to reproductive adult being is as short as twelve days. In order to control mites one must achieve as total a kill of the population as possible. Total control can only be achieved with two successive sprays. After spraying for mites initially, one *must* spray again in 7-10 days. No single spray is totally effective in killing both adults and eggs and a second spraying is necessary to kill any survivors before they can reproduce. Oil as recommended in the December chapter at 1.5 oz per gal followed in 7-10 days by soap at the rate of 2 oz per gallon is very effective. These treatments are also quite effective against scale and mealy bugs which thrive on drought as well. Be sure your plants

are well watered the day before applying both oil and soap and be sure that you cover thoroughly all leaf surfaces especially the lower ones which are mites favorite hide outs. For those who wish to be more aggressive, the University of Florida IFAS recommended chemicals for mite control are: Avid 0.15 EC, Kelthane T/O, Mavarik Aquaflow and Talstar Flowable. Always follow label instructions for use. Any of the can be alternated with the soap or the oil in the 7-10 day cycle. Controlling mites pays huge dividends! You'll be surprised at the extra vigor your plants display.

Tasks for January

Water judiciously only early in the day.

Run plants on the dry side to preserve the possibility of using water for cold protection.

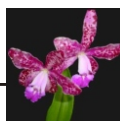
Check irrigation system in anticipation of cold.

Flush excess fertilizer salts from cattleyas and other sympodials.

Spray for mites, then spray again in 7-10 days.



Cyc Wine Delight





Haley Bastian

Onc. Kaizumic Delight 'Green Stone' AM/AOS

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We then had our show table presentation by Dick Roth and Mike Heinz, our auction by Fred Keefer and raffle table by Lyudmila Hodges and Gail Marshall. As always, Jeanette Smith and her committee brought great refreshments and did a good job cleaning up.



Haley Bastian

Cleistoma flagelliformis



Inoculaid discussion at the home of Lola & Chuck Stark. Tom Selvig and Jack Walker lead discussion.

January 19 Keiki Club Get Together

The Keiki Club got together at the home of Lola and Chuck Stark on January 19 for a tour of their growing areas and a lecture on Inoculaid. The Inoculaid presentation by Tom Selvig and Jack Walker was very interesting and informative. Inoculaid functions by enhancing the population of photosynthetic bacteria around the orchid root zone. This enhances the uptake of fertilizer and seems to have a systemic effect. It makes fungicide and pesticide applications more effective at lower doses, though bactericides will kill the Inoculaid bacteria necessitating repeat applications. The most effective application of Inoculaid is in low dosages with low dosages of fertilizer, say 1 teaspoon of Inoculaid per gallon with quarter strength fertilizer, used each time you water.



Keiki Club members do a little repotting



SHOW TABLE



L. anceps var. *guerrero*



Col. Wildcat 'Bobcat'



Den. Yellow Song 'Canary'



Coel. *graminifolia* #1



Den. *bullenianum*



Trichoglottis wenzelli

