

CLUB NEWS



with a small discount, to be picked up at the June 11 meeting.

Our program for the evening was by Wendy and Jason Griffin of Indian River Orchids. Wendy spoke about the general care of orchids. The most important factor in growing orchids is knowing when to water and how. If you are a person who waters a lot, you should use clay pots, if you tend to forget to water or do not have time, you should use the plastic pots. During the hot summer, Wendy recommends watering your cattleyas for 30 minutes in the early morning (they should be dry by noon), twice a week. They grow in greenhouses and have what they call "test pots" on every bench. If they have a question about whether or not something needs watering, they dump a pot full of the potting medium into a second, empty pot and can tell if the bottom of the medium is damp. If it's damp, the plants don't need watering; if it's dry, they do. Vandaceous plants need to be watered every day or twice a day when it gets really hot.

Fertilizer should be added weekly. They recommend 30-10-10 along with ½ Tablespoon of Epsom Salts per gallon with a little Superthrive added. After unpotting her plants, Wendy soaks them for 2 hours in liquid seaweed to induce root growth. Because of her quantity of plants, she makes it up at 1 cup of seaweed per gallon of water. At the end of the day, use the remaining liquid to fertilizer other plants and make a fresh batch the next day. Wendy recommends potting year round whenever a plant stops blooming. Do not overpot. Cattleyas prefer to be slightly root bound. They pot in Stalite rock in most cases. Their shade house uses 63% shade cloth. Cattleyas prefer 2000 to 3000 foot candles of light, whereas Vandas want 5000. If you have a greenhouse, Wendy and Jason recommend spraying with a fungicide once a month on general principles. They use RD20.

Following the lecture, Marv Ragan touched on the misnamed Encyclias we had on the show table, saying that Encyclia seratesta is actually Encyclia profusa. Jan Ragan and Harriet Wright explained to us how vandas are judged, saying that the petals and sepals should overlap and that the inflorescence should be held above the leaves. If you happen to lose a flower on the way to the show, be sure you keep it and lay it in the container during the judging. If there's an obvious loss of a flower, the judges will not consider the plant for judging. We then had the raffle of plants and the silent auction along with a regular auction of plants before the meeting was adjourned.

May 6 Monthly SAOS Meeting

By Lola Stark

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Heinz with 54 present. We had 9 visitors and 45 members. Mike welcomed our guests and introduced new members, Chari Armlin, Chris Deering, Linda Drevenstedt, and Mark & Sheila Heilman. He thanked Gail Marshall and Shirley Berglund for our refreshments and Gail and Jack Higgins for cleaning up later. Our sign-up sheet for refreshments and cleanup was passed around.

Kaycee Heinz spoke to the meeting about the Volusia Orchid Show and urged those that have orchids we can show to please take them to Sue and Terry's house. All are welcome at the show and should know that it's a wonderful place to pick up some new orchids. The Keiki Club will meet on May 25 at the Bottoms for the problem plant and repotting clinic. Mike congratulated Gail on the "Who's Who and Who's New" in the newsletter which was met with a great deal of applause. The article really was timely and this way we'll get to know those members we haven't already become acquainted with.

In June we'll have two meetings instead of one. The regular meeting on 3 June will feature Taxonomist Francisco Miranda talking about Brazilian Laelias. He will also bring plants to sell. On June 11, hybridizer Fred Clarke will speak on "Recent Trends in Catasetinae". He will be at the end of his trip, and may not have many plants left, so please go to his website, pick out some orchids you'd like to have and call Sue Bottom who will order them for you



Upcoming Events

June 2008

- 3 Brazilian Laelias
Francisco Miranda, Miranda Orchids
St Aug Orchid Society, Watson Realty
- 11 Mormodes, Cycnoches & Catasetums
Fred Clarke, Sunset Valley Orchids
St Aug Orchid Society, Watson Realty

August 2008

- 3 Coalition for Orchid Species Symposium
Miami

September 2008

- 27-28 Ridge Orchid Society Show
Lakeland

October 2008

- 3-5 Florida West Coast Orchid Society Show
Minnreg Hall, Largo
- 18-19 Gainesville Orchid Society Show
Kanapaha Botanical Gardens

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



June 3 Monthly SAOS Meeting

Francisco Miranda of Miranda Orchids located in Haines City, Florida will speak about Brazilian Laelias at the June 3 meeting of the St Augustine Orchid Society. His presentation is a slide show of his hikes, climbs, and explorations, showing details of various local growing conditions and the growth habits of the species he encountered along the way. His descriptions of the natural growing environment are interspersed with the hybridizing goals he is trying to achieve.

Over the past twenty years, Francisco has grown and line-bred many Brazilian orchid species. He has written a book on the orchids of the Brazilian Amazon and has 4 CD-ROMs, Orchids from the Brazilian Amazon and the genus Catasetum, Laelia and Cattleya in Brazil. He was the Program Chairman for the 15th World Orchid Conference in Rio de Janeiro, and, since 2001, a qualified Taxonomic Authority for the American Orchid Society specializing in the determination of Brazilian species.

With a Master's Degree in Botany and over twenty years of taxonomic research under his belt, Francisco has published numerous papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals in the United States, Germany, and Brazil, and he continues his work from his North American home base in Florida, from which he also runs [Miranda Orchids](#), a nursery specializing in the orchids of Brazil.

June 11 Lagniappe Monthly SAOS Meeting

Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids located in Vista, California will speak about recent trends in breeding with Cycnoches, Mormodes and Catasetums at the bonus June 11 meeting of the St Augustine Orchid Society. His lively and entertaining presentation about the amazing world of Catasetinae includes pictures about the making of Fredclarkeara After Dark 'the blackest orchid seen' and also includes a thorough review of plant culture.

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St Augustine Orchid Society Organization

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SAOS places Second among six Societies.

Volusia County Orchid Society Show

The Volusia Orchid Show "Jewels of the Orchid World" was held at the Volusia County Fairgrounds on Saturday and Sunday, May 10 and 11. The St Augustine Orchid Society won second place for the society display, behind the Platinum Coast Orchid Society who won first. We did very well with ribbons. Of 48 entries, we won 16. First place ribbons were given to Mike and Kaycee Heinz for Den Gatton Sunray and Gga truncata; Harriet and Mike Wright for Paph Prime Child; Dick Roth for Epi floribundum 'Miya' x Epi cordigerum 'Paradise' and Terry and Sue Bottom for Phal cornu-cervi v alba, Den aggregatum, and Bc Diadem. Second place ribbons were given to Mike and Kaycee Heinz for Den transparens and Bulb robustum; Harriet and Mike Wright for Paph Gold Dollar; and Sue and Terry Bottom for Lc Irene Finney 'Spring's Best', Blc Texas Twilight, C violacea 'Cynthia' x C aelandiae 'Tropic 1' and Dtps Minho Princess 'Flying'. Third place ribbons were given to Lola Stark for Paph Ho Chi Minh and Terry and Sue Bottom for Hknsa Koolau Sunset 'Hawaii'. We did very well with ribbons. Of 48 entries, we won 16 ribbons.



Four of seven Blue Ribbons won by SAOS.

The Redlands Trip May 16 and 17 By Lola Stark

Ten people from the St Augustine Orchid Society joined 20 members of the Flagler Orchid Society for a trip to Redlands Spice and Fruit Park outside Homestead, Florida for an annual Orchid Extravaganza. We left Watson's Realty at 4 am and joined Flagler in Palm Coast, leaving there at 5 am. We arrived at Redlands at about 11:30 and immediately went from booth to booth looking at all the wonderful orchids. There were about 40 different orchid growers from around the world in attendance along with numerous vendors selling supplies and other orchid related items - dishes, paintings, jewelry, large baskets to name a few. There were also lectures to attend at the Center and these were attended by about half of us. Though they didn't come with us, the Bottoms met us there and helped us get acquainted with the layout. About 4 pm, we got back on the bus to go to Soroa Nursery, but were unable to locate it, so went on to the motel for the night. On Saturday morning we loaded up at 9:30 and went to RF Orchids where we were given a wonderful tour of the garden of Robert Fuchs, given by himself, and then were let loose in his greenhouses to buy whatever we wanted. Following that we went to Banjong Nursery who specialize in Vandas, but also had other orchids and plants which we devoured! Our trip ended up by going to the American Orchid Society Headquarters in Delray Beach where we toured the building and the greenhouse and gardens and wondered at all the marvelous orchids, bromeliads and begonias inside and countless plants in the gardens outside. What a marvelous set-up! We got back home to Watson's at 8:30 that night - tired, loaded down with our goodies (not all were orchids!) and very satisfied. We hope more members will be interested in making a trip next spring!



Dick & Bill Roth discuss buying strategies with Lola Stark & Sue Bottom at the Redlands Show.



May in Your Orchid Collection

By Dr Martin Motes, from Florida Orchid Growing

June is the most dramatically tropical month in South Florida. As the southeast Trade Winds blow cool moist air off the Gulf Stream daily, as surely the heating effect of the center of the peninsula percolates up massive thunder heads. The increased cloud cover drawing a veil across the afternoon sun provides much cooling relief for our plants late in the day. Because of this additional cloud cover, our plants are less stressed than in the brightest of May sunshine. The increased humidity makes June feel hotter to us, but this humidity brings blessed balm to our plants from the unrelentingly dry heat of late spring. The shading clouds are also the harbinger of the almost daily rains that arrive like clockwork with the thunderstorms that re-circulate the moisture laden air back toward the ocean in the afternoon. These showers can drop the temperature 10-12 degrees in almost no time, again bring our plants relief when they need it most in the peak heat of the day. In June, such soaking rains that can sometimes be an inch or more an hour, are the norm rather than the exception. For orchids grown outside in South Florida this month, how to dry them out becomes more the question than how or when to water them. For most sympodial genera (cattleyas, dendrobiums, oncidiums, etc.) the natural rainfall of June is sufficient. Only in those rare once or twice times during June when no rain falls for nearly a week is it necessary to think of watering sympodial orchids in June. Even then it usually is a thought that can be dismissed. A thorough, "hard" drying in this first month of the rainy season is usually of much more overall value to sympodial orchids than the slight extra push of additional water. Harder plants that have not been pushed with extra water are much more disease resistant than softer more lushly grown orchids. Vandas and other high water requirement plants may still need periodic watering in June but remember that these types too relish occasional "hard" drying and the heavy often lingering, rains of June are just the nostrum for re-hydrating them even when they have become as dry as the cork in a wine bottle dry. When watering in June, remember at no season is the standard 'water early in the day' rule more relevant; those extra hours of drying are crucial. If your vandas or other orchids really need water, water early in the morning to allow time for them to dry not merely by night but by the time the all too likely afternoon thunderstorms arrive to soak them again. Be sure when you water that the roots of the vandas are saturated until they turn overall dark green. This will still take two applications of water spaced a few minutes apart. June is the archetypical month for careful but totally thorough watering. For those of us committed to sloth, this month is one in which benign neglect becomes a virtue.

With an eye to efficient drying which the season demands, June is an excellent time to review the spacing



Aerides multiflora

of our plants. Always give your plants sufficient space to allow for good air circulation to permit rapid drying. Crowded plants stay wetter longer encouraging fungus and bacteria. Scale and mealy bugs also thrive on the soft lush growth generated by overcrowded, overshadowed plants. Mites too love the extra protection from dislodging rain that overgrown plants provide. When looking at the spacing of your plants also allow some extra space for the new growth that will be rapidly developing in the new growing season. Remember your well grown plants will be much larger at the end of the rainy season when the fungus are savagely on the prowl. Plants and trees in your yard also will have grown in the past year and will be growing more in the rains of summer. June is a good time to think of pruning vegetation that is blocking light and air from our orchids. Come the true heart of hurricane season in September you will be glad that you did! Tree pruning alas, slips to a low priority in the face of an approaching storm. Your orchids will be glad right away that you pruned, rewarding you with harder, healthier growth sure to produce yet more lavish blooms in season.

A persistent problem in June is how to apply liquid fertilizer to our plants under these often persistently wet conditions. As all of our orchids are in rapid growth in June they need to be fed, ironically this comes in the face of super abundant moisture. While rain contains minute quantities of nitrogen, heavy persistent rain can in fact strip nutrients from our plants by reversing the normal osmotic process. To a degree this effect of the heavy rains can be positive leaching away any excessive fertilizer salts that have accumulated over the dry season but overall the rain leaves them needier than before. Those of us who have kept our plants well nurtured in May will be ahead of this curve but we all must keep our plants fat and happy at the onset of the heavy growing season. For orchid grown in pots with media, the relatively new, slow release fertilizer widely sold as "Dynamite" (i.e., Nutri-cote) is of especial value at this time of year. Other brands of slow release fertilizer have not proven to be as reliable

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(neither consistent nor durable) under the hot humid conditions of South Florida. In general, a good rule in June, is that when some opportunities to water present themselves, think rather of applying liquid fertilizer instead of just water. Remember too, the oft repeated bad advice to water your plants before fertilizing them is particularly erroneous in June when over-watering can quickly have negative consequences. In June, as always, replace a watering with an application of the proper concentration of liquid fertilizer. Another frequently sought strategy is to apply fertilizer in conjunction with fungicidal sprays. In general it is not advised to combine balanced fertilizer (20-20-20, 18-18-18) with sprays because with South Florida's highly alkaline water. Any phosphorus in the fertilizer tends to bind up most of the trace elements when conjoined to South Florida ground water. Phosphorus (a very active metal) can also have adverse reactions to the fungicide



C skinneri var alba

cleanliness becomes even more essential because water is the chief vector of most orchid diseases. Dead leaves, roots or other dead orchid tissue frequently harbor diseases that can be loosed upon our orchids by the heavy rains of June. Weeds (dead or alive) can hamper air flow and also harbor disease. This month whatever one can do to enhance air circulation is a plus. Under cover, fans to move air are of great value to Phals and other genera. Hopefully, if we have been doing a good job, our plants will have grown significantly since last year's rainy season. They all may well need more space. Remember that old time orchid growers would say one needs a cat to be a good grower in South Florida because a cat should be able to walk orchid benches without knocking plants down when they are properly spaced.

Snails and slugs will have the whole world as their stage in June and can travel considerable distances to eat our tender orchid shoots. Baits containing metaldehyde are



Blc Pollyana 'Jennifers Favorite'

Itself, lessening or abnegating its effectiveness. The solution to this dilemma is to use a fertilizer without phosphorus when a bit of nutrition is desirable. The best source is potassium nitrate 13-0-44 (available at farm supply stores in 50 lb. bags) which provides the additional potassium our plants crave. 1 Tbs per gal can be added to the spray solution. Be sure to use "Spray Grade" not "Prilled" which would need to be dissolved in hot water. Thiophanate Methyl, Cleary's 3336 or its combination Banrot or Duosan should be applied prophylactically in June. Keep a sharp eye on your plants for any signs of black rot (Pythium). Should soft black or brown spots appear, they should be excised immediately using a sterile knife as this disease can spread quickly in wet conditions. Banrot gives good control but Alliette is the best fungicide to control this disease if it persists.

To minimize the need to apply fungicides, June is an excellent time to review our overall sanitation and cultural conditions in the growing area. It is always important to keep the growing area as clean as possible. In June,

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very effective if applied evenly and often. Remember, bait draws the pests; spread it thinly but repeat weekly for thorough control. Snails and slugs always require multiple applications. Overly heavy applications of bait will merely waste in the heavy rain.

Although mites and to a degree thrips are washed away by the heavy rains of June, the warm conditions of summer speed the growth of scale and mealy bugs. At the first sign of either of these pests spray with Soap at 2 oz. per gal or an appropriate insecticide. Oil is no longer an option in the heat of summer. If the soap doesn't prove effective enough, try something stronger but apply with care early in the morning or late in the evening as the high temperatures of mid-day in June can exacerbate phytotoxic reactions.

June is a great month for top cutting strap leaf vandas, teretes (papilionanthes) and reed stem epidendrums. Most sympodial orchids are already in growth and unless their media in totally broken down are probably best left undisturbed till their new growths have matured and they have flowered. If you have not gotten your Phalaenopsis out of last year's sphagnum moss wait no longer! Phal roots in soggy medium in June is a receipt for "Fails".

For those of us so in love with Florida that we would never think of insulating ourselves with air-conditioning, the rains of June provide pleasant relief from the harsh Mediterranean sun of late spring. As my son Bartholomew at age two so aptly said "Rain sweet as honey". Enjoy! Our orchids do.

Tasks for June

1. Careful watering this month often means no watering at all. Arise early to enjoy the cool and water only when truly necessary.
2. Space plants amply. Good air circulation is essential across the coming months.
3. Re-pot Phals and re-set Vandas. Make sure that plants are firmly set in their new abodes.
4. Begin or continue a disease prevention program with the prophylactic application of Thiophanate Methyl (Cleary's 3336) and Alliette or with Banrot.
5. Clean up growing area and plants. Remove dead leaves from plants and the ground. Pull weeds.
6. Prune trees and shrubs to increase light and air circulation.
7. Apply snail bait lightly early in the month and again lightly mid-month
8. Set air conditioning thermostat at 80 and enjoy living in the Tropics.



Controlling Snails and Slugs

By Dr Martin Motes, from Florida Orchid Growing

Snails and slugs are recurring problems in orchid collections. Recurring because they are ubiquitous, persistent and hard to completely control. They recur whenever the weather is favorably wet for them to move about with ease. These mollusks save their energy during dry periods to maximize their energy in eating our orchids when the environment is favorable.

Slugs and snails are creatures of habit. When they have found a lush patch of flowers or soft new growth they feed there at night and then follow their silver trails back to their snug resting places for the day. Old pots, boards, piles of decaying leaves or other vegetable material are mollusk hotels. The moist potting soil of ferns or other foliage plants can serve as bed and breakfast. These are the places to round up the usual suspects! Better still clean up these blighted parts of the neighborhood and eliminate the spawning grounds of these criminal elements.

When one actually encounters one of these slime balls whether at their home or at large, the crunch of their shells underfoot is always satisfying. Unfortunately, like other unsavory types they do most of their work late in the night when honest folk are abed. For this reason leaving these hungry night workers a snack in the form of metaldehyde bait is the most effect control for snails and slugs. These mollusks are fatally attracted to metaldehyde. They are drawn like moths to the flame. Spread the bait thinly, one pellet every foot or so. They'll find it. The smaller the pellets the better. Those small pellets which fall on desirable plants will do little or no harm and small bits are less attractive and potentially less injurious to domestic animals.

Repeated applications at weekly or bi weekly intervals (depending on rainfall) are absolutely essential. Bait is washed away by rain and irrigation. One also never manages to get all the pests with a single application. Any mature snail or slug has also almost surely reproduced and the next generation will be along soon. Please don't leave any starving orphan snails out there. Those repeated light applications of metaldehyde bait are like manna from heaven for snails.

Metaldehyde also comes in liquid form which can be sprayed to eliminate bush snails in hanging plants. Great care should be exercised in its use.



WHO'S NEW & WHO'S WHO

Shirley Berglund

If you call Shirley Berglund, expect to reach the answering machine, because 99 times out of 100 she'll be out in the garden. She's been an active Master Gardener for over 18 years, but her love of gardening goes back to her childhood in Plymouth, MA where she grew up, married and raised a family and became a prominent antiques dealer. Shirley eventually retired to South Florida, then relocated to St Augustine 12 years ago. It was in South Florida that Shirley fell in love with orchids. When asked "Why?" Shirley said, "If you live in South Florida, you just can't help it." Those of us who have lived there know exactly what she means. Her current collection of about 80 plants is mostly slat house grown. And while her favorites are 'purple cattis', people driving by her house often stop to ask about the enormous mounds of orange Epidendrum radicans and yellow Dancing Lady Oncidiums hanging in her trees. Besides SAOS (a charter member) and Master Gardeners, Shirley is also a member of the Garden Club of St Augustine and has a large collection of blue ribbons for horticultural excellence. Gardening runs in her family, and her last three pets have been a big friendly dog named Daisy (who loves to uproot geraniums), and two cats, one called Buttercup and the other, Jasmine.



throughout their many moves. Currently she's an Avon rep and also has taken up knitting as a throwback to childhood years spent in England, where knitting is a way of life. She says she intends to have shawls in any color she could possibly want – and there are no sleeves to knit.

Mike Heinz

Hail to the Chief! Mike Heinz is our current SAOS President. Talk about someone who knows orchids and walks away with blue ribbons! Mike got his first orchid back in 1963 while working for Anna-Hari Orchids as a driver/handy man doing just about everything around the greenhouses and for shows that could be entrusted to a beginner. It got him hooked, and he learned fast. In 1966 he joined the Navy and spent 30 years traveling to the ends of the earth and everywhere in between. His only regret is that he didn't bring back orchids from all the tropical places he's visited. He and wife Kaycee retired in Glen St. Mary where they've lived for 12 years. Mike supports his orchid habit working in counter sales for Advance Auto Parts. He's the one who greets you when you walk in the door with a problem. Today, Mike's orchid collection totals about 1600 plants, housed in one 20 ft x 50 ft greenhouse. His favorites are his 300 plus bulbophylums (but you knew that!), mainly species. The rest are a mix of all kinds of genera – mostly species and mostly the strange and unusual - which Mike thinks of as a perfect personality match to him.. And since he's the president, who are we to disagree? Mike is also actively involved in the Jacksonville Orchid Society.



Kaycee Heinz

Kaycee Heinz, Katherine Cecelia to the uninitiated, is the supportive power behind the throne of our current SAOS president Mike Heinz. She is well experienced as she has served as president of the Jacksonville Orchid Society in the recent past. Her expertise in orchid shows has been invaluable to our new society. While Mike is the main force behind their 1600 plant orchid collection, Kaycee can take over maintenance activities, watering in a moment's notice if needed to keep the greenhouse running. Laughingly, she'll tell you that it's not her favorite thing to do, and she really has a brown thumb. She and Mike have been retired in Glen St. Mary for the past 12 years. Originally from Florida, she was an Air Force brat, and while following Mike around during his 30 years in the Navy, Kaycee raised two daughters and worked in a variety of managerial positions



Debbie Sandy

From 0 to 100, Debbie Sandy doesn't waste any time. Born and raised in St. Augustine, Debbie joined SAOS two years ago with NO orchids to her name. Now she's into triple digits. Not one to hold back once she's fallen in love, Debbie has no favorite orchid but loves them all equally – as long as they're unusual. Debbie went to the World Orchid Conference and two trips to Redlands, where at the most recent one, she enjoyed swapping "orchid cat" stories with Martin and Mary Motes. Life can be kind, and it blessed Debbie with husband Bob who is an avid gardener and



avid gardener and orchid aficionado as well. Together they've created a tropical paradise with a shade house, gazebo and water garden. Their home is situated in a protected area under dense oak trees, and they leave their orchids out till near freezing. (If you're inexperienced, don't try this at YOUR home – unless you have lots of money for replacement plants.) Eight or ten gargoyles of various sizes stand guard over their domain. Ah, paradise! Since every addiction has its price, Debbie currently works as a seamstress for Custom Marine Canvas on W. King St.

Denise Henry

Denise Henry became interested in orchids like so many of us did, when she received one as a gift (five years ago) and had no idea how to take care of it. Since then she's had about 20, and about half of them have gone to orchid heaven, so she was thrilled to join SAOS one year ago. Her theory was to focus on Phalaenopsis first, figuring out how to successfully deal with them before moving on. But theory meets practice, and she's been winning other kinds of orchids at SAOS raffles which has forced her to expand her library of orchid information. She is currently growing her orchids inside but will soon having a deck that will include a partially shaded wall specifically designed for her growing orchid collection. Formerly from Rhode Island, Denise has lived in St. Augustine for 18 years. Afternoons and evenings she teaches English to adult speakers of other languages at First Coast Technical College. This keeps her from most evening SAOS meetings, so she takes every advantage of the monthly Keiki Club get-togethers held on weekends. Her other passion (besides orchids) is ballroom dancing, something she's been doing since 4th grade



One of Indian River Orchids offerings

Dick Roth

Dick Roth brings a wealth of experience to our orchid society by jumping at the chance to be one of SAOS's charter members back in 2006. He, and wife Joan, retired in St. Augustine in 1998, after 27 years as City Attorney for Lighthouse Point, Florida where he also specialized in wills, trusts and real estate. He first became interested in orchids in 1960 when he "just fell in love with them" – a feeling most of us have experienced. Ain't love grand! In 1963 he became president of the Ft. Lauderdale Orchid Society and followed that with the presidency of the South Florida Orchid Society in Miami in the late '60s. No small honors, both of those. We're talking about two of the orchid meccas of the world. Dick grows approximately 300 plants in his back yard without a greenhouse, but his garage is specially equipped to handle the occasional freeze. His growing set up is pretty remarkable, particularly for vandas, which happen to be his favorite orchid. Dick has accomplished something most of us never will. He registered a new orchid genus he named the Rothara, a cross between an Epidendrum and a Potinara. When he isn't watering his vandas, you can find him on the golf course. He's also crazy about Rod Stewart singing the old standards. Who can blame him?



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Fred, an AOS judge and orchid hybridizer, created Sunset Valley Orchids in 1995 as a natural outgrowth of a hobby that began twenty seven years earlier. Sunset Valley Orchids is a boutique style nursery dedicated to excellent customer service and unique offerings of award quality orchids.

The nursery is focused on the development of cutting edge orchid breeding lines, providing new and unique hybrids and species in several genera including Cattleya, Paphiopedilum, Catasetinae, and Bulbophyllum. The flasking lab processes over 300 new hybrids annually producing 2000 replat flasks. The plants are selected on strict criteria of robust growth and ease of flowering. This is accomplished by selecting only the most vigorous seedlings throughout the processes of flasking, community trays, and potting. This grading results in the strongest and best plants for both their customers and their own future breeding efforts. Orchids from Sunset Valley Orchid have many AOS awards, including seven that have received the highest honor, the First Class Certificate.



SHOW TABLE



Renanthera imschootiana



Schomb tibicins x nobilior



Paph Prime Child



Miltoniopsis no name



Paph Golddollar



C mossiae var semi-alba

