

September, 2010

Volume 24, Issue 9



## OrchidWiz Encyclopedia Speaker: Alex Maximiano

Inside this issue:

- Monthly Program 1
- President's Message 1
- Board Of Directors 2
- President's Message 2
- AOS & Local Events 3
- Orchid Tidbits 4
- Orchid Tidbits 5
- Refreshments 6
- Plant Table 6
- Advertisers 7

Ever wonder how your prize cattleya or ascocenda or phalaenopsis came to be? Why is it red or yellow? Why does it have spots or stripes? What country is it native to? Has it received any AOS awards? How do I grow it?

Alex Maximiano has developed a software program that will help you find the answers to those and many other questions. He will be at our meeting on Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, and will give a demonstration on what information this program can provide, so you can become more knowledgeable about the "wonderful world of orchids".

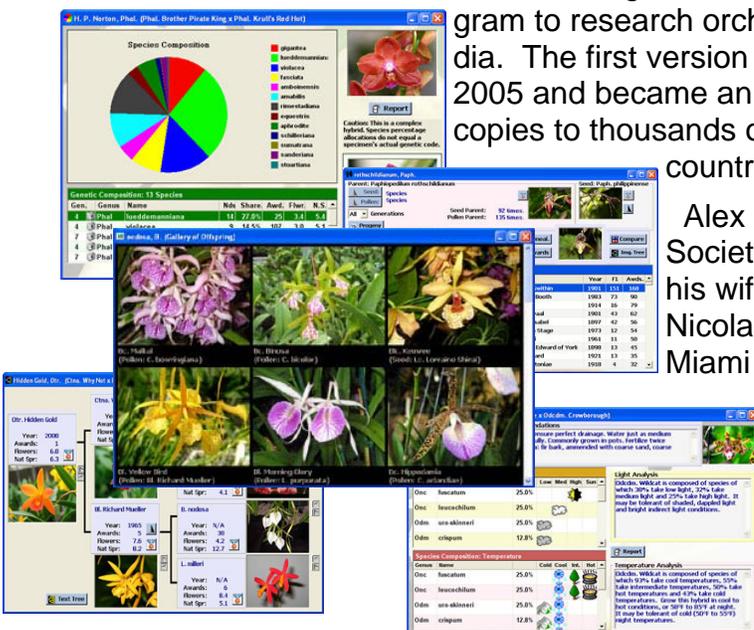
Alex was born in Portugal and came to the US at the age of 17. After receiving college and graduate school degrees, he spent 20 years working in the computer field, primarily selling and supporting high-end databases for software companies Oracle and Informix.

Alex's involvement with orchids started in 2002, when he was looking for an orchid present for his mother-in-law on eBay and became fascinated with orchid breeding. Soon after, he started to design a new software program to research orchids, which turned into OrchidWiz Encyclopedia. The first version of the software was released in November 2005 and became an instant success. To date, Alex has sold copies to thousands of orchid aficionados in every state and 50 countries worldwide.

Alex is a Certified Judge with the American Orchid Society West Palm Beach Judging Center. He and his wife Marianna have two sons, six-year-old Nicolas and four-year-old Nathaniel. They live in Miami Shores, Florida.

See you at the meeting.

Jackie Wood, Vice Pres. - Programs





## 2010 Board of Directors

### President

Corrine Juliano

(561) 483-2411

president@brosonline.org

### Vice President, Programs

Jackie Wood

(561) 368-0278

programs@brosonline.org

### Vice President, Membership

Sharon Wesolowski

(954)605-9932

member-  
ship@brosonline.org

### Treasurer

Denise Libby

(954) 796-7559

treasurer@brosonline.org

### Corresponding Secretary

Lorraine Conover

(561) 395-2145

corressecre-  
tary@brosonline.org

### Recording Secretary

Belinda Krause

(561) 451-8516

recsecre-  
tary@brosonline.org

### Director

Dave Hogaboom

(561) 477-6635

### Director

Karen Khan

(561) 394-0385

### Webmaster

Scott Joffe

webmaster@brosonline.org

### Editor

Marian McElligott

(561) 367-9731

editor@brosonline.org

## Calendar of Events

- Thur Sept. 9 7:30pm BROS Monthly Meeting - Speaker: Alex Maximiano  
 Wed Sept. 15 7:30pm BROS Board Meeting - Karen Kahn's Home  
 Thur Oct. 14 7:30pm BROS Monthly Meeting -  
 Larry Cox: Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums  
 Wed Oct. 20 7:30pm BROS Board Meeting - Lorraine Conover's Home

## President's Message:

Happy September to everyone!

***I get the privilege of giving you some exciting new news!***

Denise Libby has come up with a concept for a new category that we are going to add to the plant judging table. Our own Jackie Wood came up with the witty new name. **"UFO"(Unidentified Flowering Orchid).**

If you have an orchid with no name/tag and it looks great, bring it in. All "UFO" plants will be placed on one table under the new category tag. We also hope to help you with the identification of your plant. Please fill out the judging form with as much information as you have. I am very excited about this category. I am sure we all have beautiful orchids that a blue jay has run off with the tag, so this will be a good chance to show off your plants and possibly get a name to put back on it.

### ***Are you Ready to Ramble?***

Karen and Lorraine are working feverishly to get your Fall Ramble rolling. **SAVE THE DATE. Sunday, October 3, 2010.** They are still looking for a few more houses to add to the ramble. Please remember that the goal is to give members ideas on how to mount orchids, or landscape with orchids. It is not a showing of what is blooming. Nobody can predict what is going to be in bloom, so don't let that hold you back from participating in this great event. Please refer to the ad for the ramble to get all the details.

### ***Other October events not to be missed:***

**East Everglades Orchid Society** is having their **2010 Orchid Show and sale October 15,16 & 17, 2010** from 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM in the gardens of **R.F.Orchids Inc,**

28100 SW 182 Ave, Homestead, FL 33030. If you would like additional information check out there web site at [www.orchidseeos.com](http://www.orchidseeos.com)

**SFOS will host its annual Speakers Day on Sunday, October 3, 2010** from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM at Signature Gardens, 12725 S.W. 122 Avenue, Miami FL. This year they have a wonderful panel of highly respected speakers presenting an enjoyable and educational program. Speakers Day also includes AOS judging and SFOS Medal Judging. Plants for judging must be registered by 10:00 A.M. and can be picked up at 12:00 P.M. Speakers' Day has AOS approval for judging seminar credits as well. Several of our speakers will have plants to sell and sales will be open only to registered seminar participants.

The speakers this year are George Carr, Eric Christensen, Gene Crocker, Dr. Wagner Vandrame, and Peter Lin. Tickets are \$45.00 per person. The price includes continental breakfast and cold buffet lunch. Tickets are not available at the door. To register, please call 305-255-3656.

Corrine Juliano

President



American Orchid Society

## American Orchid Society News:

### Judging at the AOS Visitors Center and Botanical Garden

The West Palm Beach judging center holds its monthly meetings at the AOS Visitors Center and Botanical Garden. On the fourth Saturday of each month at 2 pm, the judges get together to evaluate the flowers brought in for their consideration. This is a wonderful opportunity for orchid lovers to observe the judging process.

### The Orchid Doctor is In, Wednesday, Saturday, and Sundays

Having problems growing your orchids? Blooms fall off? Are your plants sick? You can find the answers to your questions by bringing the invalid plant to the AOS Visitor's Center and talking with the "Orchid Doctor". Experts are on hand Wednesdays from 10:00 am – 11:30 am, Saturdays, 1 – 4 pm and Sundays 1 – 4 pm.

**Check out more AOS events & news online at <http://www.aos.org>**

### BROS Member's plant table photos (check out the BROS website for more images)



## Mounts Botanical Garden

### ***Everything Orchids; A Shady Affair Plant Sale***

September 11 - 12, 2010 (10 AM – 4 PM) More information: 561-233-1757

This weekend event showcases a select number of top orchid and shade plant growers, artists, and craftspeople who share their knowledge and passion for orchids and plants. The event features fun and informative lectures featuring Dr. Martin Motes and others. Book sales and signings to follow. An silent auction of magnificent tabletop arrangements is an added special treat. This weekend event showcases a select number of top orchid and shade plant growers, artists, and craftspeople who share their knowledge and passion for orchids and plants. The event features fun and informative lectures featuring Dr. Martin Motes and others. Book sales and signings to follow. An silent auction of magnificent tabletop arrangements is an added special treat.

Cost: Members free; Non-members \$5.00

Location: Garden

### ***Mounting & Repotting Orchids***      ***Mounting & Repotting Orchids***

September 25, 2010 (10:00 am - Noon) More information: 561-233-1757

This workshop is with instructors Tom Wells and Sandi Jones of Broward Orchid Supply, Students will learn what orchids need--water, light, fertilizer, temperature. Attendees are encouraged to bring an orchid up to 6 inches to repot or mount. Several methods will be demonstrated such as potting and mounting on tree fern, cork bark or grapevine. Orchid supplies and small orchids will be available to purchase.

Cost: \$30 Members; \$40 Non-Members

Location: Auditorium



## ORCHID TIDBITS

### Orchid History and Fun Facts.....

The first orchid from the western hemisphere to reach Europe was vanilla, sent to Spain in 1515. Vanilla (and its vanilla bean) is the only commercially grown orchid corp. Other tropical orchids arrived, but often failed to grow and flower.

The first Cattleya orchid to flower in Europe was almost thrown away! It had been used as packing material to protect other specimen plants. A botanist named, William Cattley, recognized its uniqueness and saved it from destruction in 1818.

Though we think of orchids as only tropical, they grow on every continent, in every climate, from the Arctic Circle to the southern most jungle except Antarctica. Orchids are the largest family of flowering plants. With an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 naturally occurring species throughout the world and more are being discovered every day. Orchids are the second-most widely geographically distributed family, after the grasses.

There are three species which grow within the Arctic Circle and two species from Australia that grow underground - only the flower reaches briefly above the soil. The smallest orchid is the size of a dime, while the largest weigh several hundred pounds. Orchid flowers come in every color of the rainbow and combination. Contrary to the old black and white movies, there is no black orchid. Floral fragrances are equally diverse, from quite sweet to the smell of rotting liver.

Orchids have the tiniest seeds in the world, making them a challenge to grow and cultivate. There can be up to 3 million seeds in a single orchid seedpod.

It takes patience to grow an orchid; the plant's first flowers won't appear until at least 5 to 7 years after germination. Some orchid flowers bloom for mere hours, while others last up to half a year.

The first man-made orchid hybrid was created in 1856. Over the years hybridizers have learned to cross as many as five genera to create a single plant – the equivalent of mixing a hummingbird with a blue jay, eagle, mallard and whooping crane.

Each orchid is pollinated by a specific insect or bird and it is only rarely that an orchid species can successfully use another bird or insect to pollinate. Because of this specificity, preservation of orchids in the wild depends on preservation of the entire ecosystem. This is so important when you figure an orchid plant can live up to 100 years. Orchids have become one of the most popular houseplants of all time, recently surpassing even the popularity of African Violets.

A few fun facts and a little history about the orchids we love.

Corrine Juliano  
President



# Fall Ramble—October 3rd. 2010

Mark your calendars, get your cameras ready...Sunday October 3 is our Annual House Ramble.

Cost \$5 pp. Send your name(s) and money to BROS PO Box 276367, Boca Raton, Fl 33427-6367 or sign up at the August & September meetings.

Never been on a Ramble? You are in for a treat and lots of fun visiting different homes.

For more information:

Contact Lorraine Conover 561-395-2145 or Karen Khan 561-394-0385



## Calling on all BROS Members:

Last month I mentioned that I'd like to begin a profile of our members in the monthly newsletters. We are such an interesting and varied group, I'm sure that many of us have tips, ideas and stories to share. Please contact me with any anecdotes and pictures you would like to share with your fellow BROS members.

Marian McElligott / Tel: 561.367.9731 (marianmce@comcast.net)



## ORCHID EXHIBIT WORKSHOP

Jackie Wood will be giving a class at her home on **Sunday, November 14, 2010 from 1-3 pm** to anyone who is interested in learning how to put in a tabletop exhibit for our orchid show coming up in February 2011. To keep things simple, the demonstration will be for a card table size exhibit, but the same principles can be applied to any size exhibit.

You will learn the basic principles of design and some little tricks on how to put in a beautiful display and win that trophy. This is a wonderful way to show your artistic talents and display your beautiful orchids. Plus it's a fun way of getting more involved with your society and its activities.

If you are interested in this 2 hour workshop, sign up at the upcoming meetings or email Jackie at [bocaorchidlady@aol.com](mailto:bocaorchidlady@aol.com). Please make sure to provide your email address and/or phone number.

### ***Refreshments are needed for our September 2010 Meeting***

These refreshments can be: Cookies, cakes, punch, soft drinks, vegetables & dip, cut up fruit, fruit salad , nuts, chips or anything tasty to share with the other members during the break.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SIGN IN SO WE CAN ACKNOWLEDGE YOU IN THE NEWSLETTER.**

Thank You to Marina, Jane Walters, Hella Weiss, Claude Moraes, Veronica Risko, Sylvia Zeitlin, Kim Hitt & Marian McElligott for bringing those delicious goodies to share at our August meeting.



### *Volunteers Needed*

*Please consider volunteering at one of the monthly meetings or help organize one of the many events the BROS hosts - we need volunteers. Contact a board member for more information.*

#### **Boca Raton Orchid Society Plant Table**

**Judge: Jackie Wood - August 2010**

Category	Ribbon	Orchid Name	Owner
Vanda	Blue	V. Kultana Gold X V. Tessellata	Garfield Gilchrist
Paphiopedilum	Blue	Paph. Janet Kunkle 'Grace Hsinying X Paph. Hsinying Citron 'Big Hsinying'	Shirley Wilde
Cattleya Unifoliata	Blue	LC 'Royal Flair'	Dave & Amy Hogaboom

#### **B.R.O.S Plant Table Registration Instructions.**

1. You must have owned your plant for at least 6 months.
2. Absolutely NO INSECTS.
3. Your orchid must have a name.
4. It must be in the correct category. (Ask if you don't know.)
5. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY the name of the Orchid and your name on the Registration Form.
6. Try to place your plant in an attractive container to enhance the orchids beauty.



IF THESE CRITERIA ARE NOT MET, YOUR PLANT MAY BE DISQUALIFIED.

Help all members enjoy your beautiful orchids by displaying them correctly.

**BONUS:** Each plant registered will receive a FREE raffle ticket for the plant draw.

If you would like to view the pictures of these winning Orchids, Please visit our web site at:

[www.BocaRatonOrchidSociety.org](http://www.BocaRatonOrchidSociety.org)

**EDITOR'S POSITION AVAILABLE:**

BROS is looking for someone to take over the Newsletter Editor position.

Please contact Marian McElligott @ marianmce@comcast.net Tel: 561.367.9731. OR any BROS Board Member.

*Training and transitional help will be provided.*



Boca Raton Orchid Society Membership

FIRST YEAR

SINGLE \$25.00 COUPLE \$35.00 - Newsletter

RENEWAL

SINGLE \$18.00 COUPLE \$25.00 - Newsletter e-mailed

SINGLE \$23.00 COUPLE \$28.00 - Newsletter U.S. mailed

Business: \$40.00 - Newsletter e-mailed

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sharon Wesolowski

MEMBERSHIP@BROSONLINE.ORG

MAIL CHECKS TO:

BOCA RATON ORCHID SOCIETY

P O BOX 276367

BOCA RATON, FL 33427

**Support the Boca Raton Orchid Society Advertisers**



**ORCHID CARE SERVICE**  
Full Service, We Come To You  
**Jane Heim Maechtle**  
Orchid Specialist  
Boca Raton, Florida  
Consultations Available  
561-271-6131

**Advertise Here**

Non-Member \$120.00 per year  
Member \$100.00 per year

Contact Marian McElligott  
561-367-9731

**Jim Weatherbee**  
**Quality Home Repairs**

- Painting
- General Home Repairs
- Woodwork
- Crown Molding

**(561) 859-1809**

**GREEN BARN ORCHID SUPPLIES**

*Everything you need to grow beautiful orchids*



5185 Conklin Drive  
Delray Beach, FL 33484  
**(561) 499-2810**

website: [www.greenbarnorchid.com](http://www.greenbarnorchid.com)

Co-Proprietors:  
Lynn Lappin and Hyla Levine

[www.BocaRatonOrchidSociety.com](http://www.BocaRatonOrchidSociety.com)

We're on the Web!

P.O. Box 276367  
Boca Raton, FL 33427

## Boca Raton Orchid Society

### Boca Raton Orchid Society

BROS Meetings are Held the  
2nd Thursday of each Month at  
7:30 p.m. at:

Safe Schools Institute  
Southeast Corner of  
Military Trail and Spanish River Blvd.

1790 N.W. Spanish River Boulevard  
Boca Raton, FL 33431  
561-982-0900

