

President, Roy Krueger, 1st Vice, Barry Reese, 2nd Vice, Evelyn Terry,
Recording Sec. Mercedes Kratz, Corresponding Sec. Carole Douglas,
Treasurer, David Hewitt

Website--manateeorchidsociety.com

From the President

We've managed to come to the end of another year of the Manatee Orchid Society. We celebrate the conclusion of the year with our annual banquet, June 14 at the Bradenton Yacht Club. Reservations are due by this weekend. If you haven't signed up yet, call Dave Hewitt or Evelyn Terry with your reservation. Cost is \$24 /person. Thanks to the banquet committee for making this event possible. The menu is salmon, chicken Marsala or roast pork.

We will install our new officers at the banquet. Carole Douglas will serve as First Vice President/programming, Evelyn Terry will again serve as Second Vice president/membership, Dave Hewitt is our treasurer once again, Mercedes Kratz returns as recording secretary, and Lucille Negin fills out the slate as corresponding secretary. In a lapse of good judgment, you selected me again as your president.

The season has changed. Spring has given way to the heat and rains of summer. Treat your plants accordingly, especially the ones you grow out doors. The sun can burn delicate leaves in a few hours or less. Filtered light is best for most varieties. When you water (if you need to) do it early in the day and give your plants time to thoroughly dry before nightfall. Apply fungicides and disinfectants as part of your regular water/fertilizer routine. Prevention is easier than cure. I use SA20 by Southern Ag as a substitute for Physan 20. Old standbys like Turban and Banrot are still effective and available and should be sprayed ---- More Roy on page 2

Cultural Notes for June 2011

Wow! Has it been dry. I hope you have kept your plants well watered during this period. The humidity has been in the low thirties. Humidity that low will dry ones plants excessively, causing the plants to shut down their growth spurt and take a defensive position to protect themselves from shriveling.

June starts the rainy season, hopefully. It's Time to move from the 30-10-10 type fertilizer to the balanced formula such as 20-20-20. Of course we always fertilize weekly at one quarter to one half the recommended strength printed on the package. (Weekly - weakly)

As summers heat begins to assert it's self, we need to start thinking about keeping our plants cool. If you have cool pads it would be wise to check them for alge buildup that can slow the flow of air over the grid. Fans should be cleaned, lubricated, and the electrical connections checked. A daily spritzing will aid in the cooling and help hold the humidity we need.

I know I needn't remind you that the heat brings bugs, and those bugs are hungry. Be prepared to use your favorite insect spray when the need arises, do your thing quickly and thoroughly. These sprays are deadly poison to you as well as the bugs. Take Precautions

You can still repot your Phalaenopsis and Paphiopedilums, but be quick about it. Most others are probably best left for this season. The new growth is most likely too far along.

Roger

ORCHIDS WE SHOULD ALL GROW
RHYNCOLAELIA DIGBYANA

Perhaps the most spectacular specimen you can find in any orchid collection is Rhy. digbyana. Perhaps the most difficult orchid to grow is the same. We pamper, we primp. We coax, we swear. Hopefully it all comes to some avail in early May when digbyana may decide to honor us with one spectacular flower per growth. And spectacular it is.

Brilliant crystalline white/green with a finely haired lip, digbyana produces a single 6" citrus scented bloom that lasts only one week. But is it worth it. If you are reading this in the newsletter, put it down and go to the MOS web site and look at the picture. Then you will understand the love affair that growers have with this temperamental plant.

There are only two species in the genus rhyncolaella. Digbyana, and glauca. Both are distributed though Central America from Mexico through Honduras. Treat both as you would any Cattleya. Water heavily and then let dry almost completely. Grow in bright filtered light at altitudes from sea level to 1000m.

Digbyana can be grown in a pot or basket as well as mounted. I grow mine mounted to help keep dry. The one pictured is from Belize. Fertilize weekly when in growth. Let the plant rest after growth is completed before bud sheaths begin to fill.

Pseudobulbs are club shaped and about 6" long. A single leathery leave tops each pseudobulb, about 8" long. Only one bud develops in each sheath. The plant does not generate multiple leads until it is quite mature. Then multiple leads may occur infrequently.

It is a plant that takes much care, develops very slowly, and can be very frustrating to the grower. But, it is well worth the time and effort. The species has received 16 awards from the American Orchid Society including 8 Awards of Merit (80-89 points) .

Roy

Roy from pg 1---- 4-6 times per growing season. Another alternative though not listed for use is pool algecide in an emergency. Hydrogen Peroxide can also be used as a drench to kill crown rot. Apply several times over a two week period. Remember though, prevention is easier. All your plants should be in full growth now. They need water and fertilizer. The more light the plant gets, the more water it needs to convert the fertilizer you apply to healthy new growth.

Your potting and splitting should be done by now. If not, hurry and get it done you slacker. Those new roots need time to set in the pot and solidify the plant. Get it done.

June should be rewarding you with a profusion of color in your Vandas. Reds, oranges and yellows are in profusion. Bright bluish and pinks abound. Some, particularly the Aerides and Mokaras emit a lovely aroma. Remember, vandaceous varieties have no pseudobulbs and free hanging roots. That means lots of water-every day. Potassium nitrate and magnesium sulfate make an easily absorbed fertilizer mix. Enjoy them.

See you at the banquet. Good growing.
Roy

Attention

May ended our fiscal year here at MOS. The new year starts at the banquet June 14. David is now accepting dues. Be sure to get yours in early to avoid the rush at the banquet. Send your check to,

David Hewitt
11550 57th St. Cir. E
Parrish FL, 34219

Keep MOS strong And we'll have a great year.

You may forget with whom you laughed, but you'll always remember with whom you wept.

MOS Minutes - May 10, 2011

The meeting was called to order by president Roy Krueger at 7:05 P.M.

There were no corrections to the minutes. The treasurer reported a balance of \$2,530.36 in the treasury. Evelyn Terry introduced Charlene Rainbow, a new member, and guest, Sharon DeMilt. Bags of Stalite, a potting medium, and Nutracote, a time-release fertilizer were available for purchase at the meeting.

The Homestead show will be held on May 14-15 in Redlands/Miami, Fl. Over 60 U.S. and international vendors will be at the show.

Roger's class will resume on Saturday.

Alicia Jennings and Caroline Rainbow will co-chair the plant table.

The change to the bi-laws was approved which provides that the dues of members who join the society in January through June will be pro-rated.

The slate of officers as proposed at the April meeting was approved. The officers are: President, Roy Krueger; First V.P., Carole Douglas; Second V.P. and Membership Evelyn Terry; Corresponding Secretary, Lucille Negin; Recording Secretary, Mercedes Kratz. Officers will be installed at the June banquet to be held at the Bradenton Yacht Club on June 14th beginning at 6:30. Directions to the Yacht Club are on the MOS website. The cost is \$24.00 per person and payment and choice of entrée must be received by June 1. For additional information contact Dorothy Hyde, committee chair, at 723-1321.

Roy demonstrated how to de-flask seedlings.

Refreshments were provided by David Hewitt, Lucille Negin, Linda Jennings, Kristen Gause, and Evelyn Terry.

Members brought in plants for sale.

Barry reviewed the plant table and announced the winning plants: A First place tie for Rhyncholaelia Digbyana and LC Dorothy Fiene x LC Everett Dirkson; Second place Shomburgkia (?) x C Bob Betts; Third place Epidendrum Radicans .

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted, Mercedes Kratz, Sec.

MOS

May 2011 Treasurer's Report

Balance as of April 20, 2011	2,530.36
Income	
May raffle	\$31.-
Miller class registration (3)	30.-
Garden Club/Krueger donation	25.-
Dues (10)	218.-
Fertilizer sales (8)	80.-
Stalite sales (6)	48.-
Member sale commissions	8.-
Banquet ticket sales (23)	552.-
Total receipts	\$992.-
Expenses	
Purchase of stalite & fertilizer	\$104.-
Registered letter to Fl Dpt of Corp.	3.29
Corporate registration to Fl	61.25
Newsletter printing & mailing	58.17
Total Expenses	\$226.71
Check Book balance plus cash	\$ 3,295.65
Less cash held on hand for change	20.-
Adjusted balance May 20, 2011	\$ 3,275.65

Banquet June 14 2011

Address

Bradenton Yacht Club

4307 13 St W

Palmetto, Fl.

Power Point Projector

At times Our speakers need a power point projector for their programs. If you have one that we could use on an occasional basis it would be really appreciated. Call Carole Douglas at 761-9486, My old slide projector just won't cut it anymore
Roger