

# PAOS News

January  
2012



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## From the President's Desk

Dear Member and Friends;

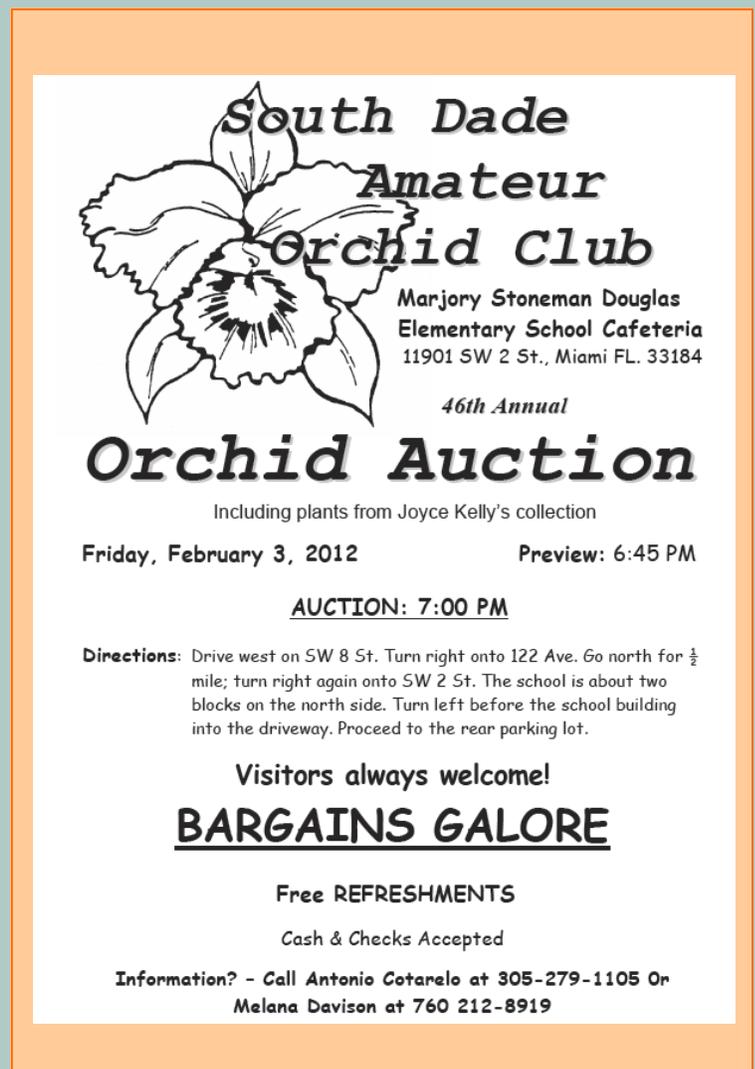
I wish you a Happy New Year 2012 from Sao Paulo, Brazil.

I have just become a Grandmother for the very first time and am enjoying spending time with my daughter, her husband and new baby. They live in a beautiful area called Villa Nova Conceicao. Although Sao Paulo is one of the largest cities in the world, as orchid lovers, you would all appreciate the lush garden squares in their pedestrian neighborhood. The trees are all covered with many blooming orchids, oncidiums, phals, cattelayas and cymbidiums. And the landscaping is just as beautiful with much of the same tropical plants we have but the groupings of the different species is very artistic and pleasing to the eye. It is summer here but the temperatures are very much like Miami's this time of year, except for the coldest dips you have been having. And of course we are not at sea level but, I believe, 2700 feet. I would like to be exploring more since Brazil is so diverse but ...

I will have to save my sightseeing and orchid hunting for another trip as baby Emmanuelle is not yet ready for traveling.

Once again, I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year filled with Peace and Prosperity! Enjoy our enthusiastic January speaker, Alan Koch, and I will see you all in February.

Gail Weber  
President



**South Dade  
Amateur  
Orchid Club**

Marjory Stoneman Douglas  
Elementary School Cafeteria  
11901 SW 2 St., Miami FL. 33184

*46th Annual*

### **Orchid Auction**

Including plants from Joyce Kelly's collection

**Friday, February 3, 2012**                      **Preview: 6:45 PM**

**AUCTION: 7:00 PM**

**Directions:** Drive west on SW 8 St. Turn right onto 122 Ave. Go north for  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; turn right again onto SW 2 St. The school is about two blocks on the north side. Turn left before the school building into the driveway. Proceed to the rear parking lot.

**Visitors always welcome!**

### **BARGAINS GALORE**

**Free REFRESHMENTS**

Cash & Checks Accepted

**Information? - Call Antonio Cotarelo at 305-279-1105 Or  
Melana Davison at 760 212-8919**

## From the Editor

The Tamiami International Orchid Festival opens the year for most orchid enthusiasts and growers. The Festival is only two days long, but it offers attendees a full schedule of activities, including judging, a raffle and more. To learn more visit their new website <http://tamiamiorchidfestival.com/> - now also in Spanish! So mark your calendars: Saturday, January 28 and Sunday, January 29.

If you are considering taking your beautiful plants for the judging at the Tamiami International Festival, do give them a call to confirm when you are to drop them off. AND make sure to keep an eye on the weather. This year it has been very finicky, though not as bad as the 2009-2010 winter. You should still bring your orchids in if temperatures threaten to reach below 35°F - take the windshield factor into account.

See you at the meeting!

### PAOS Next Meeting

Christ the King  
Lutheran Church

11295 Southwest 57th  
Avenue Miami, FL  
33156

Tuesday, January 17 at  
7:30 p.m.

## Ask the Orchid Doctor

**Q:** Jim, I have a Blc. Hawaii Stars 'pink lace'. It is blooming from the two far sides of the pot but the growth in the middle keeps turning brown at the base of the leaves. The pot is in lava and has not been re-potted for some time. It does not smell like erwina. What should I do?

**A:** Gail, BLC. Hawaii Stars 'Pink Lace' (Brassavola Little Stars X LC. Memoria Robert Strait). It sounds like it could be a couple different things. Fusarium wilt infection comes to mind, but I can't be sure without a photo. But it could also be something else. Please include a photo when asking questions about specific plant ailments or bring it in to the meeting and I can diagnose it then. Thank you.



## This Month At Paos

Alan Koch will be our speaker sharing with us his knowledge of miniature Cattleyas. The topic of his presentation is Growing and Caring for Miniature Cattleyas. Read on to learn more about Alan.

Alan Koch owns and operates Gold Country Orchids where he specializes in miniature and compact Cattleya's. Alan started growing orchids in 1969 with 3 Cymbidiums given to him by an aunt. While in college he became interested in other orchids and discovered many would grow outdoors in Southern California. He has moved five times as his orchid obsession has led to the need for more growing space. With the last move, he purchased 10 acres of land in Lincoln, California for his 300,000 orchids. He is recognized as an expert in the Brazilian Cattleya alliance and a trend setter in miniature Cattleya breeding. Alan has been published in the Orchid Digest, and the American Orchid Society magazines. He has also been published in the proceedings of the World Orchid Conference. He is an internationally known speaker. He is a past member of the AOS Judging Committee, and the Research Committee, as well as an Accredited Judge and is Vice-chair and Training Coordinator for the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center. Alan also served two terms on the Orchid Digest Executive Committee and Board of Directors, and is one of the current directors, as well as a Trustee for the AOS.



### PAOS AUCTION

Our auction last year was a huge success and we are eager to repeat the feat!  
For that we count on you, our members and friends who rallied together to  
make the event a success.

Mark you calendars:

Saturday, March 21 at 1 p.m.

## AOS Corner

While surfing AOS website for a topic for this month's AOS Corner, I came across a little known project of the, the Species Identification Task Force (SITF) AOS (in full disclosure, I have to admit it is little known by me probably because I am not a judge). SITF is under the supervision of the Judging Committee of the AOS and its mission is to try to improve and simplify the processing of awards, with the goal of ensuring that awarded species are correctly named. Members of the Task Force are not necessarily taxonomic experts but individuals who use reference material to confirm the identity of submitted awards. When the SITF collective expertise and reference collections are not adequate, members of the task force turn to a network of qualified experts.

The discussion on their website goes on to describe that the "task force replaces the previous cumbersome identification and verification procedure, which often involved shipping plant material to a taxonomic expert. The SITF, using today's electronic communications capabilities and readily available high quality digital images, hopes to facilitate the process of identifying awarded plants and to get the process done in a timely manner. Most awarded species do not need a taxonomist for identification, if reference material is available. When reference material is not available we use taxonomic experts who are willing to give opinions based on digital photographs.

Occasionally awards will require in depth investigation by a taxonomic specialist, and SITF coordinates this when it is required." Their webpage also provides links to a variety of other resources which any orchidist would find interesting to explore. To find out more about the SITF check out their site at <http://www.aosforum.org/sitf> - you should all enjoy exploring this site.

This SITF page on the AOS website is an example of the vast amount of information on the AOS website.

We are in the middle of an exciting show season and I hope you all will try to support the shows in your areas. Some that are on my radar screen for this year will be the 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show. AOS will again be putting in an exhibit at this world renowned event. Last year 265,000 attendees visited this show over its 7 days. The theme this year is *Hawaii: Islands of Aloha*. A committee has been put together and we will be soliciting plant material and volunteers for 'manning' the site. Another show is the Spring Members' Meeting of the AOS. This will be hosted by the Wichita Orchid Society. More information on these two shows (including how to register for the Members' Meeting) will be forthcoming on the AOS website under Events.

Hope you all had a great holiday and New Years.

Lynn Fuller, Chair  
AOS Affiliated Societies Committee



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The  
Bulletin  
Board

Tamiami International  
Orchid Festival  
January 28-29

[http://  
tamiamiorchidfestival.com/](http://tamiamiorchidfestival.com/)

Orchid Care  
Classes with Jim  
Davison will  
resume in January

AOS Events Schedule is available  
online and you can find it [here](#).



American Orchid Society  
Education, Conservation, Research

Mark Your  
Calendars:  
PAOS Auction  
Saturday, March  
24 at 1 p.m. at the  
Church.

Refreshments Team for  
January, 2012: Natalie  
Lincoln, Candy McDonald,  
Catherine Pendelbury, Jean  
Tress, Georgia Ruiz and  
Kamal Tyler

PAOS News is the monthly  
newsletter of the PanAmerican  
Orchid Society, affiliated with  
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# PAOS News

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## PAOS 2011 Gallery



All pictures in this issue depict ribbon winners and PAOS activities throughout 2011. Enjoy!

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