

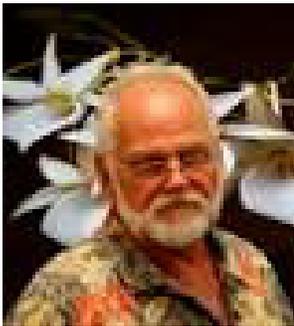
*Key West Orchid Society*

# NEWSLETTER

*Jay Pfahl, President*      *Louise Wood, Editor*  
**WWW.Keywestorchidsociety.org**

## May 2017

Next meeting **Sunday, May 7** at the West Martello Fort  
**1:00 pm. Program starts at 1:30**



**Tom Kuligowski** is back again as our speaker for May. He is an avid orchid grower, specializing in angraecums, & runs an information web site on angraecums: ([www.angraecums.blogspot.com](http://www.angraecums.blogspot.com)). Tom is photographer for awarded plants in the West Palm Beach area. If you have any angraecums in bloom, this would be a good time to bring them to Show & Tell.



### KWOS MEETINGS

**June 18** KWOS end of season Pizza Party  
**July, Aug. Sept.** Home visits to be announced.

### ORCHID EVENTS

**May 19-21 REDLAND INTERNATIONAL ORCHID FESTIVAL**, Redland Fruit & Spice Park, 24801 SW 187 Ave. Homestead.

**May 13-14, 2017** Volusia County Orchid Society Show, at the Volusia County Fairgrounds, Hester Bldg. located in Deland FL 9-4 Sat. & Sun. For Discount admission coupon go to <http://www.volusiacountyorchidsociety.com/discount-coupon/>

**KW GARDEN CLUB** meets every Monday from 9 to noon for potting, rooting, weeding, etc. & General Fort cleanup. Drop in & help any time you have a free Monday morning.

If you would like to subscribe to **The Keys Blast** go to [EK10@AOL.COM](mailto:EK10@AOL.COM) and ask to be put on the list. Ed Krane covers our activities & just about everything else that happens in the Keys.

### *Notes from the President*

This month there is plenty in bloom as spring is in full force. Make sure you use Orthene 2 to keep the thrips and scale at bay as they can come on strong this month. Check your Cattleyas thoroughly as they seem to be the first plant that scale attacks. Also, if none of your Vandas are blooming now it may be because thrips are sucking dry your new inflorescence before you see them, so look in between the leaves and stem to see if there are bloom spikes that started but got sucked dry.

The Redland Orchid Festival is coming up on the weekend of May 19-21 and we have transportation arranged for Friday, May 19. The seats are filling up fast, so you need to reserve ASAP. We had a blast last year and are looking forward to an even greater trip this year!

*Jay Pfahl*

### *Darwin's Orchid*

In January 1862 Charles Darwin was given a specimen of the Madagascan orchid *Angraecum sesquipedale*. Noting the foot-long nectar tube he predicted that one day a moth would be found with a proboscis long enough to reach the nectar at the bottom of the tube. It wasn't until 1903 that such a moth was found: the *Xanthopan morgani proedicta*. Darwin was right.



From upper left: V. Fuchs Starlight 'Midnight' Florence Bousquet; V. Denisoniana 'Orange' hybrid; Vandenia Magic Wand, Rochelle Eannarino; Paph. Robellini; Ren. Kalsum x Ascda. Varute Fushia ; Lc. Orchidglade Grand; Yellow Phalaenopsis, Darrell Dye; a good turnout for for Mac Rivenbark's Easter Sunday presentation. Florence's Vanda won for Best Hybrid; Pat Baker's Brassia was Best Species.



**Have you remembered to pay your dues for 2017?  
Snail mails will no longer be sent to non-members.**

### *Paphiopedilums*

Most of us find paphs hard to grow, but they don't have to be. Paphs are semi-terrestrial, growing in humus on the forest floor. Here is a condensation of AOS's culture sheet. Paphs grow under fairly shady conditions, so are well suited for growing indoors under lights. The mottled leaf varieties are better adapted for our warm, moist climate. Water must always be available at the roots because this genus has no pseudobulbs, but the soil should never be soggy. Most potting mixes are fine or medium-grade fir bark with perlite, sphagnum moss or coarse sand. The key is moisture retention with good drainage. To download the full Culture Sheet for Paphs & just about everything else, go to the American Orchid Society: [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org).