



The Orchidist

The South Florida Orchid Society Newsletter

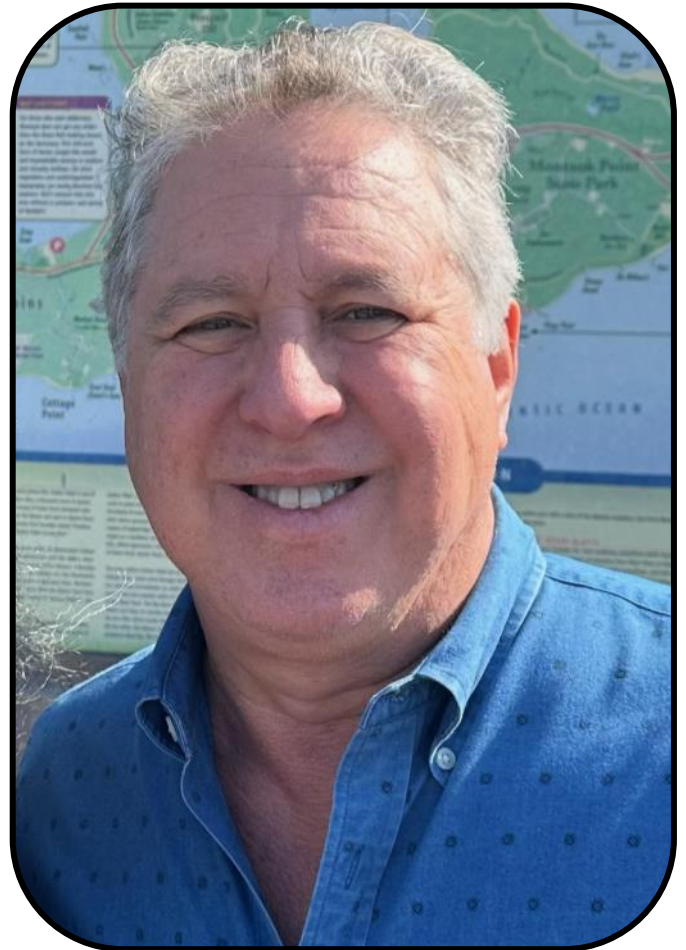
SFOS November 20th, 2024 Program

Antonio J. Cotarelo **Gongoras- the flying orchids**

Antonio graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of South Florida and worked for the Department of Environmental Resources Management (DERM), Public Works and the Water and Sewer Department of Miami-Dade County for over 36 years, until his retirement in 2023.

He grew up in Venezuela where before the age of ten he saw his first cattleyas in bloom covering large oak trees. He never forgot that sight. As a teenager, he convinced his parents to purchase two cattleya species, which he grew and bloomed.

Years later in Miami, he started growing orchids as a hobby, and he realized there were hundreds of species. As many hobbyists do, he wanted to have orchids of all genera in his collection, but he eventually realized (after about 2000 plants!) that he would never accomplish that goal. He has now grown orchids for about 45 years.



His favorite orchid genera are Cattleyas, Gongoras and Stanhopeas. Specifically, with Gongoras and Stanhopeas, he is fascinated with the fact that nature would develop flowers that mimic insects in flight to attract their pollinators.

Plants for our Raffle are being provided by Motes Orchids.



SFOS 2024 Holiday Party

December 18th, 2024

El Rinconcito Latino 40TH

MENU

Please Select One Entree From the List Below

Ropa Vieja (Cuban Shredded Beef)

Camarones Enchilados (Cuban Shrimp Creole)

Bistec de Pollo (Chicken Steak)

Chicharrones de Pollo (Fried Chicken Chunks)

Filete de Pescado a La Plancha (Grilled Fish Fillet)

Vaca Frita (Fried Shredded Beef)

Lechon Asado (Roast Pork)

SIDES

Select From 2 Sides Below

Ensalada (Salad), Moros (Black Beans & Rice), Arroz Blanco (White Rice), Frijol Negro (Black Beans), Maduros (Ripe Plantains), Tostones (Twice-Fried Plantain Slices), Pure (Mashed Potatoes), Yuca con Mojo (Boiled Yuca w/Onions on Top)

The price for each plate is \$23.00, cash or check only. (PAYABLE IN ADVANCE)

Price includes two sides & a soft drink.

Alcoholic drinks may be purchased separately.



December 18th, 2024 (our regular meeting night)

6:00 — 9:00PM

El Rinconcito Latino 40TH

10481 SW 40th Street (Bird Road), Miami FL 33165

(305) 225-0200

President's Message

Hello all,

First off, I'd like to start off by wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Thank you to Yolanda at Quest Orchids for her presentation on creating orchid arrangements last month.

This month our speaker will be Antonio Cotarelo who will be speaking about the genus Gongoras, the flying orchids. Mr. Cotarelo worked for Miami-Dade County for over 36 years until his retirement last year. He has grown orchids for over 45 years and has over 2000 plants in his collection. His favorite orchid genera are Cattleyas, Gongoras, and Stanhopeas. With the latter two, he is fascinated by how their flowers mimic insects in flight to attract pollinators.

Please remember to bring in your blooming beauties by 7:30pm so they can be judged. Plants brought in after this will not be judged.

I'd like to remind members that it is important to participate in the silent auction by donating items and bidding on what is brought in. (Cash and checks are accepted, no credit cards.) Additionally, we'll be announcing the November recipient of the SFOS Member of the month, which recognizes members who contribute time to making SFOS a better orchid society. Also please remember to bring in something for the food table.

I'd also like to remind our members who wish to attend our annual Holiday Party that they must register and submit their payment at this month meeting! Check the previous page in this month's newsletter for all the details!

And, I'd like to end by saying prayers for our neighbors to the north who are recovering in the aftermath of Hurricane Milton. Remember that hurricane season is not yet over. Even as I write this, there are signs of another system brewing in the Caribbean. Stay safe.

Happy Growing,

Javier Morejon



All MEMBERS

are eligible to

RECEIVE COMPLIMENTARY

Raffle tickets for the following categories:

- *Membership
- *Donating Refreshments
- *Wearing SFOS Shirt
- *Entering Plants for Judging
- *SFOS Members that are AOS Members

**Members: (Please show your AOS Member Card)



SOUTH FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY

MINI-AUCTION SERIES

ALL PROCEEDS from items sold on the MINI-AUCTION
go to South Florida Orchid Society for the
benefit of the Society.

Members may donate plants or other items to benefit
this fund-raising effort.

We accept cash or checks only.

Thank you for your support,
The South Florida Orchid Society Board of Director's



“BUY MORE TICKETS!”

Raffle tickets may be purchased with a \$1.00 donation per ticket.

Receive a complimentary

“BONUS TICKET”

for each 5 tickets that you purchase!



Membership Corner

Well by now you should have received your 2025 Renewal Notice - I handed them out at the Meeting on October 16th and have mailed the rest of them. If you don't have one by the November meeting - please let me know.

I thank those of you who have already sent me their dues - I'm getting them in day by day.

I don't know if I gave you all this information of not - but we have a new member - Charles Asche.

I hope all of you will try to make it to the Holiday Party on December 18th! The Price Is Right, the Night is set, the Membership Plants will be coming from Carmela Orchids in Hawaii - what more could make you want to come! Well maybe - we will have some fun and fellowship with each other to get our Holiday Spirit going.

For you who didn't come to the October Meeting - you missed a great Speaker in Yolanda Cuesta of Quest Orchids. I have known Yolanda since sometime around 1985. Her son (a very nice young man now) was a toddler back in the day - going in and out of exhibits at our Orchid Shows to the dismay of his mother. He never hurt a plant or flower - but Yolanda may have trying to catch him. Old memories are the greatest.

I'll leave you with this - don't miss the next Meeting on November 20 - you'll never know what could be going on! Plant Judging begins at 7:30 PM - so get there early with your plants!

See you there!

Sally Taylor
Membership Chair



SOUTH FLORIDA ORCHID SOCIETY now has Shirts available! A beautiful Royal Blue!

Ladies V neck Cotton (a little lighter in color - but still blue)

- Sm, Med, L, or XL at \$18.25
- 2XL at \$19.25
- 3XL at \$21.50

Ladies or Men's - Polo - in either Polyester or Cotton

- Sm, Med, L, or XL at \$25.75
- 2XL at \$26.75
- 3XL at \$28.00



The shirts can be seen at our meetings and orders placed at that time. All shirts must be paid for when ordered. Watch an up-coming newsletter for a good reason to wear your new shirts to the meetings.

Summer's Corner

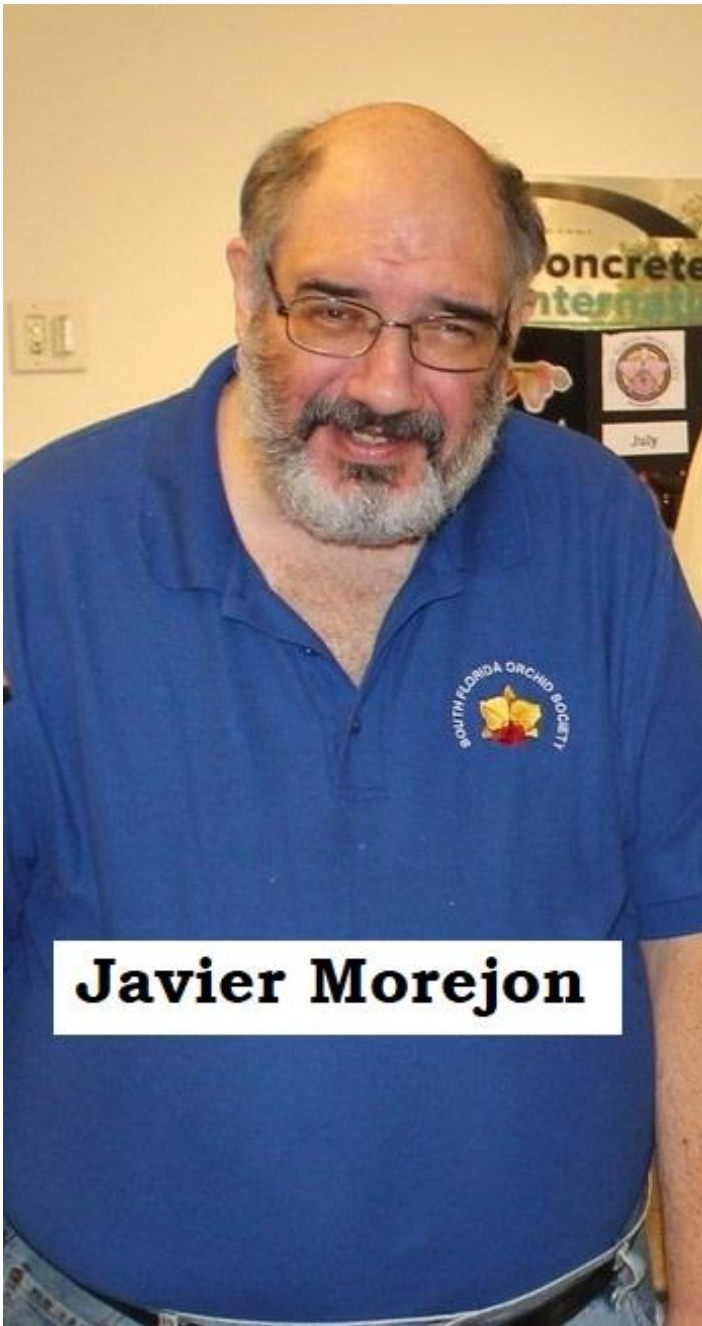
It was good to see you all at the last meeting. I got to show off my Big Ribbons - two Owner Handler Group 3 and one Group 2. Mom was excited by the Group 2 - she said it was the one I had never gotten before. We got home from Lebanon, TN in time for the Meeting.

Now Mom says we are going away for a three-day trip - no dog shows - they were cancelled. But Aunt Robyn will be doing my mails which I really don't like to much - but Mom says I have to get it done for the next Show. I guess the next shows are back in Ocala - I've been there a lot. I hope to get some nice ribbons to show you and to have pictures too!

Come to the November Meeting and I'll practice my tap dance to show you.

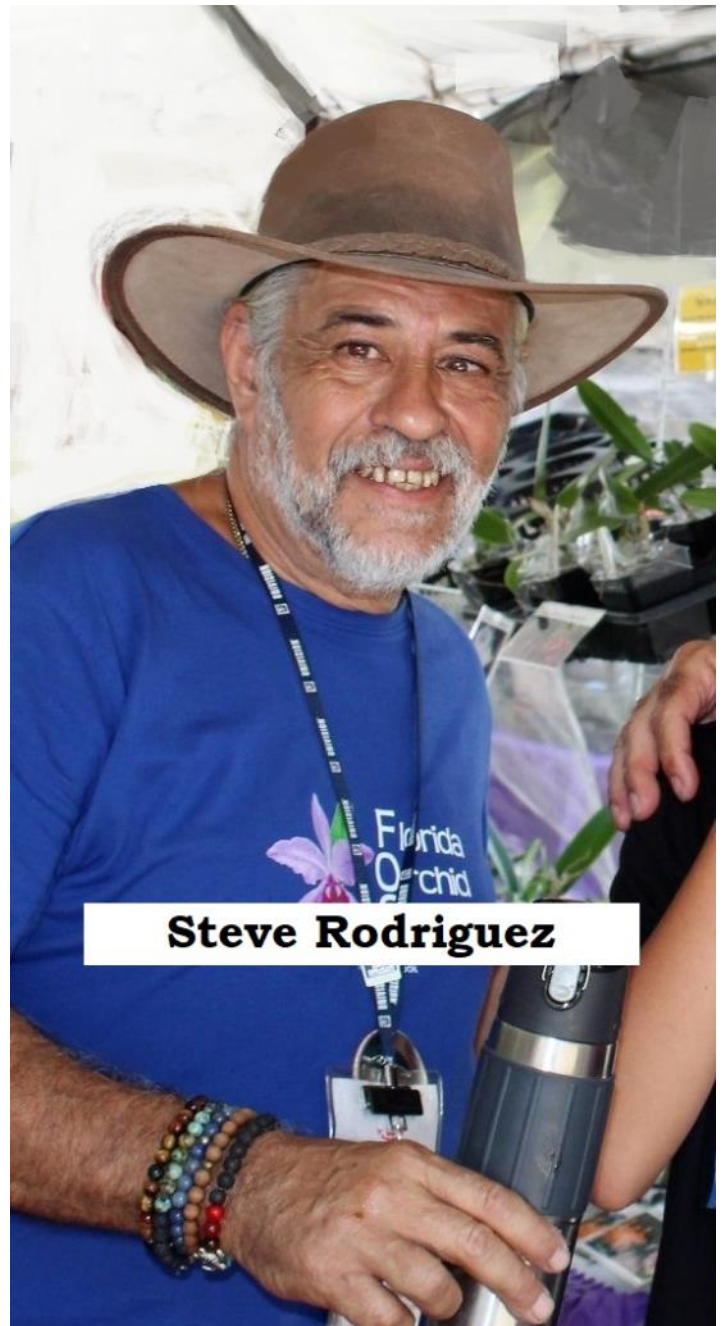
Summer 

Member Of the Month!



Javier Morejon

September Member of the Month!



Steve Rodriguez

October Member of the Month!



Judging Report

Judges: Julie Rosenberg, Javier Morejon and Erna Maxwell

Blue Ribbons:

- Blc. Marg Putnam - Steve Rodriguez
- V. Kultana Black Ball - Steve Rodriguez

[SFOS Judging Rules](#)

Red Ribbons:

- Prosthechea fragrans - Steve Rodriguez
- C. leuddemanniana - Steve Rodriguez
- Bc. Florida Stars "Ino Drive" - Steve Rodriguez

Thank you for showing your blooms. We look forward to more in November.

Erna Maxwell, Judging Chair

Photos by and ©2024, Ron Hunt



V. Kultana Black Ball - Steve Rodriguez



Blc. Marg Putnam - Steve Rodriguez

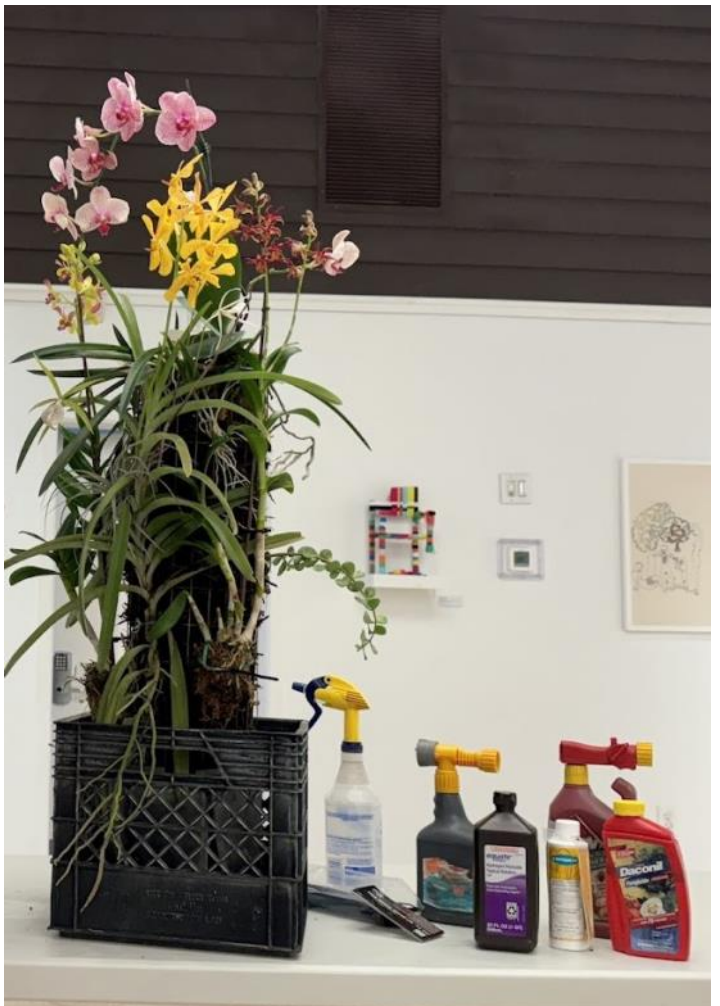
Meeting Photos!



Photos on this page by Chris Alger

Meeting Photos!

Photos by Annette Rodriguez



Meeting Photos!



Meeting Photos!



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9841 East Fern Street, Palmetto Bay, FL 33157

victoriascollection@hotmail.com

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For the finest selection of quality orchids, exquisite gifts, stunning floral arrangements and more, visit R.F. Orchids, South Florida's oldest and most prestigious orchid firm. All of this awaits you in our tropical paradise.



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Cuesta*

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Miami, Florida 33175
Tel.: 305-219-2883

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WWW.QUESTORCHIDS.NET

WE OFFER A LARGE VARIETY OF ORCHIDS

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The South Florida Orchid Society Presents...

"An Introduction to Orchids"

Edited by Julie Rosenberg

Everything you need to know in order to successfully grow orchids in South Florida.

Pick up your copy today at better orchid sellers or at SFOS monthly meetings!



South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

Board of Directors

President: Javier Morejon

1st VP:—Sally Taylor

2nd VP:—Don McDermott

Secretary:—Margaret Marshall

Treasurer:—Randall Breitwisch

Directors, Terms ending in 2025

James Furst, Chris Alger, Charles Flick

Directors, Term ending in 2026

Vacant, Erna Maxwell, Nancy Crisler

Directors, Term ending in 2027

Vacant, Maggie Echeverria, Caridad Balseiro

Immediate Past President—Javier Morejon

Show Chairman—Vacant

Special Directors—Ron Hunt & Julie Rosenberg

Meetings are held from 7:00PM to 9:00PM
on the third Wednesday of each month.

Registration of plants is from 7:00-7:30 PM.
Program Begins at 8:00 PM.

South Florida Orchid Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 565241

Miami, FL 33256



Become a Member of the South Florida Orchid Society!

MEMBER BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES

- **MEETING AND MIXING** with many friendly and helpful orchid “neighbors”, amateurs, advanced collectors and commercial growers.
- **WELCOME KIT** includes a copy of “An Introduction to Orchids” our book that covers just about everything you need to know to successfully grow orchids in South Florida.
- **MONTHLY MEETINGS** with lectures by leading local and national orchid authorities.
- **FREE REFRESHMENTS!**
- **MONTHLY RAFFLE TABLE AND SILENT AUCTION!**
- **JUDGING** each month by qualified regional and national judges.
- **MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** that includes awards given and timely meeting notes.
- **FESTIVE HOLIDAY PARTY!**
- **AIR CONDITIONED** spacious conveniently located meeting hall with ample **FREE** parking.

CLICK THE ICON BELOW TO DOWNLOAD AN SFOS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION. (PDF)



The South Florida Orchid Society, Inc. is affiliated with the
West Palm Beach judging center of the
American Orchid Society.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

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Ron Hunt — Editor, *The Orchidist*