



## The EEOS Sep. 2026 Newsletter

The goal of our society is to educate ourselves and the general public in the classification, evolution and propagation, culture, and development of the cultural economic importance of orchids; and to support the conservation this fascinating group of plants. Membership is open to anyone who is interested in the objectives, aims, and purposes of the EEOS, Inc.

The East Everglades Orchid Society meets on the **FOURTH TUESDAY** of each month with Judging at 7:30 PM and orchid related talk held at 8:00 PM

Meeting place:  
University of Florida  
Miami-Dade Extension  
Bldg. at  
18710 SW 288th St  
Homestead, FL

Visitors are always welcome.

Visit us at our Website at  
[www.orchidseeos.com](http://www.orchidseeos.com)

## East Everglades Orchid Society The Orchid Column



### Our Sep. Meeting

**Tuesday, Sep. 22, 2026 at 7:00 PM**

This month's speaker is Jose Esposito and he'll be speaking about general orchid growing. Jose is the owner of Soroa Orchids and is a fascinating speaker that you will surely enjoy. Although his first passion was writing, orchids soon took over. Co-founding Soroa Orchids in 1985 and taking over the nursery in 1994, Jose's hybridizing has won Soroa numerous AOS awards. He lectures worldwide on orchid culture and hybridizing, is a long time AOS judge, past president of our own EEOS as well as other orchid societies, and is orchid curator of Bonnet House Museum and Gardens.



Thank you' to all of you who bring dishes to share.

We will have a Silent Auction this month.

Don't forget to purchase your EEOS shirt  
Please see Donna Taylor



## EEOS President's Message September 2026

We wanted rain, and it has arrived! Our normal rainy season may be a bit late, but it's here. To repeat yet again, good drainage and separation of your plants to allow air circulation is a must now.

Last month we again had some additions to our raffle plants. Thank you to Lynn Corson for the added orchids, and to Dave Garcia for the bromeliads. Donations of extra raffle plants are always welcome, so if you have plants to share, bring them in! And remember, if you happen to have a special orchid that will bloom only between meetings, send a photo to Tere or me, and if there's room, Tere can add it to our webpage and we can all enjoy that special bloom.

This month's speaker is Jose Esposito and he'll be speaking about general orchid growing. Jose is the owner of Soroa Orchids and is a fascinating speaker that you will surely enjoy. Although his first passion was writing, orchids soon took over. Co-founding Soroa Orchids in 1985 and taking over the nursery in 1994, Jose's hybridizing has won Soroa numerous AOS awards. He lectures worldwide on orchid culture and hybridizing, is a long time AOS judge, past president of our own EEOS as well as other orchid societies, and is orchid curator of Bonnet House Museum and Gardens.

Remember that October 10<sup>th</sup> we will be having an Outreach Judging at RF, and a local tour at the beginning of November, date to be announced.

Keep bringing in those great orchids for judging, and remember to have your plants in place by 7:30 with entry forms attached if they are to be judged. Our program will start at 8:00 pm as always, with our pot luck meal starting at 7:30. While July broke all records for delicious food, we were a bit down last month so let's try to raise the bar again.

There will be a silent auction this month.

See you on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

*Judy*





Jose L. Exposito

Bio.

Born in Cuba in 1960, Jose's first passion was writing, winning numerous literary awards for poetry, short stories and children literature; at age 17 one of his stories was published in Bohemia, Cuba's premier magazine and soon after other works were found in publications around the country. In 1980, at the age of 19, Jose emigrated to the USA during the Mariel Boatlift, five years later, in 1985 he co-founded Soroa Orchids taking over the company in 1994. Jose's hybridizing of orchids has won Soroa numerous awards from the American Orchid Society in national and international orchid events, he lectures around the world in orchid culture and hybridizing he's been a Judge of The American Orchid Society for over 30 years, founder of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance, past judging chairman of The Florida-Caribbean Judging Center, past president of The East Everglades Orchid Society, The Coalition for Orchid Species, and presently on the board of directors of the Redland Orchid Festival, organizers of the largest International Orchid event in the USA, Jose is also the orchid curator for The Bonnet House Museum and Gardens where he lectures and educates visitors and volunteers about the orchids at Bonnet House and how to grow them plus maintaining the valuable and historical collection. Jose was also featured in the PBS documentary 'Orchid Delirium' and will be highlighted on a new documentary that came out on December 22<sup>nd</sup>, of 2023.





Looking for volunteers for our bake sale and member drive during the Outreach judging October 10<sup>th</sup> to be held at RF Orchids.

Please look for sign-up sheets at the meeting for volunteers to provide baked goods, for a bake sale during outreach judging in October. There will also be a sign-up sheet to work the membership recruiting table at the same event. It will be much more successful if everyone participates.

Thank you

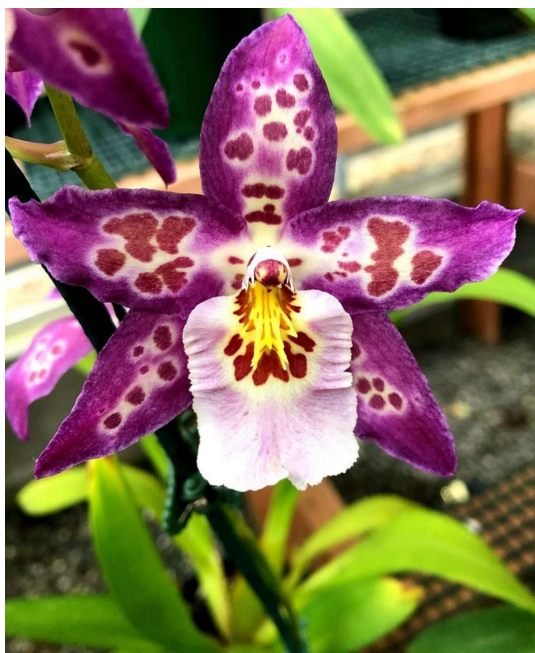
The East Everglades Orchid Society Outreach Judging is scheduled for October 10, 2026, at R. F. Orchids located at 28100 SW 182 Ave in Homestead, Florida. AOS

### **Event Details**

- **Date:** October 10, 2026
- **Location:** R. F. Orchids Inc., 28100 SW 182 Ave, Homestead, FL 33030
- **Host:** East Everglades Orchid Society / American Orchid Society (AOS) Outreach Judging AOS

### **Participant Guidelines**

- **Cost:** Free entry to exhibit blooming plants; no AOS membership required.
- **Requirements:** Plants must have correct species or hybrid names and be clean and free of pests.
- **Awards:** Plants are evaluated for official AOS quality and cultural awards. AOS





## August 2026 Judging

We had a ton of Cattleyas this month. Our green thumbs are amazing! There were so many different genera presented at our meeting, including a Habernaria, which is supposed to be very difficult for us to grow. Good on you, Judy! Your judges can't wait to see what you're going to bring in this month!

### Judging Results

#### Vandaceous Group: Entries: 5

|                 |                                |              |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Vanda Jackson                  | Lynn Corson  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Papilionanda Ambrosian Twinkle | Alan Smith   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Vanda Banjong Fantasy          | Judy Congdon |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Vanda Motes Interstellar       | Martin Rivas |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Vanda Suksamran Sunlight       | Lynn Corson  |

#### Cattleya Alliance: Entries: 12

|                 |                                                      |              |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Brassocattleya Bredren's Calypso                     | Lynn Corson  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Bromecanthe Jamaica Fire                             | Judy Congdon |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Cattlianthe Tiny Treasure                            | Kim Belisle  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Guaritonia Why Not 'Carol'                           | Judy Congdon |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Myrmecocattleya RIO's Little Treasure                | Kim Belisle  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Rhyncattleanthe Love Triangle 'Carmela's Yellow'     | Judy Congdon |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Rhyncholaeliocattleya Cordelia                       | Kim Belisle  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Rhyncholaeliocattleya Yingluck Smile 'Heart of Gold' | Martin Rivas |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Brassocattleya Yellow Bird 'Bredren's Daffodil'      | Judy Congdon |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Myrmecocattleya Hamlyn's Melody 'Hamlyn'             | Lynn Corson  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Myrmecocattleya SunCoast's Little Cutie              | Kim Belisle  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Rlc. Waianae Sunburst                                | Judy Congdon |

#### Dendrobium Group: Entries: 1

|                 |                          |             |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Dendrobium Blue Sapphire | Lynn Corson |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------|

#### Phalaenopsis Group: Entries: 2

|                 |                                   |             |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi          | Lynn Corson |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Phalaenopsis Lioulin Sweet Pepper | Lynn Corson |

#### Paphiopedilum Group: Entries: 1

|                 |                        |              |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Paphiopedilum concolor | Tere Camacho |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------|

#### Oncidium Group: Entries: 1

|                 |                       |             |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Oncidesa Gower Ramsey | Kim Belisle |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------|

#### Encyclia Group: Entries: 2

|                 |                     |              |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Encyclia alata      | Aida Arrieta |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Prosthechea radiata | Lynn Corson  |





**Other Hybrids: Entries: 3**

- 1st Catasetum California Dreaming
- 1st Habenaria Trogon
- 1st Psychopsis Mendenhall 'Hildos'

Alan Smith  
Judy Congdon  
Tere Camacho

**Other Species: Entries: 1**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Trichoglottis atropurpurea

Judy Congdon

**Miniatures: Entries: 1**

- 1st Schoenorchis fragrans

Tere Camacho

**Total entries: 29      Thank you, Bill, Erna, Ariel, Martin, and Tere for judging.**





*September Birthdays*

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| Bill Capps     | 3  |
| Larry Atkins   | 25 |
| Debbie Cockrum | 5  |
| Sergio Yony    | 9  |





**Have you seen our Website**  
**[www.orchidseeos.com](http://www.orchidseeos.com)?**

**Have you been to our Facebook page?**  
**WE would love your feedback**

**Annual Membership Dues**  
**\$30.00 Individual**  
**\$40.00 Couples**

**Mail your check to:**

**Donna Taylor**  
**9975 SW 196 St**  
**Cutler Bay, FL 33157**

**Don't forget to purchase your EEOS shirt**  
**Please see Donna Taylor**





## **Meet the 2026 Board of Directors**

### **President**

Judy Congdon

### **Vice President**

Lynn Corson

### **Treasurer**

Donna Taylor

### **Secretary**

Debbie Cockrum

### **Trustees**

Kim Belisle

Alan Smith

Bill Capps

Leila Werner

Tere Camacho

### **Immediate Past-President**

Tere Camacho



"The East Everglades Orchid Society acknowledges participation support from the Homestead Center for the Arts and the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs in their association with the projects for which grant funds were received."





# Exotic Orchids in a Lush Tropical Setting

Visit R.F. Orchids,  
South Florida's oldest  
and most prestigious  
orchid firm, for the  
finest selection of  
quality orchids in town.  
Exquisite gifts, stunning  
floral arrangements and  
more await you in our  
tropical paradise.



28100 SW 182 Ave. | Homestead FL 33030  
T: 305-245-4570 | F: 305-247-6568 | [www.rforchids.com](http://www.rforchids.com)

