



Orchidaceae

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid
Society
Associated with Sarah
P. Duke Gardens

Speaker for April 11, 2005 Bill Thoms, Placida, FL

Bill Thoms collected his first orchid in 1969 when he rescued plants of *Enc. tampensis* in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He actually just picked them off trees pushed over for a new Condo development. He built a successful orchid nursery in Tampa named Hilltop House during the early 70's. In the 80's he met and married Doris Dukes, a member of the Tampa Orchid club. After 20 years in the retail business they retired and moved several thousand of their favorite orchid plants into new greenhouses at home. They are now relaxing and continuing their hybridizing program of about 200 crosses per year. The collection grew back to about 10,000 plants, likewise the awards grew: 58 Awards for Culture in over 20 genera including 2 Certificates for Cultural Excellence (90 points or better); First Class Certificates for *Cirrhopetalums*, *Paphiopedilums* and *Phragmipediums*; and about 150 total awards in all categories. Bill recently received one of the most prestigious awards given to a hybridizer, an Award of Distinction which is given for a worthy new avenue of breeding. The plant that received the award was a cross he made between two *Trias* species and was named *Trias Emily Clarkson*.

They now live in Placida, south of Venice, with about 6000 plants. Bill gives talks all over the country on a wide range of topics from his specialty, "*Bulbophyllums*", through "*Dr. Diag Nosy*" (which has members bring in plants with problems and they are shown how to fix them) and "*Expanded Bloom Table*" (where the plants on the bloom table are given the time and attention they deserve). He also has a wide range of slide shows of Orchid Shows and Orchid Rescue (Collecting) in countries all over the world. These all are presented in a funny style that helps growers understand how the plants work and they all revolve around the Culture of Orchids. He helps the beginner grower with lots of advice about fixing problems and has a wealth of accumulated information for the more advanced grower, too!

No matter what kind of plants you grow, Bill will give you tips to make them grow and bloom better.

Bill can be reached at: 300 Capstan Dr., Placida, FL 33946-2222

Phone: 941-698-1233, Email: dukesthoms@cs.com

Have Dinner with the Speaker:

Join us at the Neo Chinese Restaurant, 4015 University Drive Durham. At 5:30 PM. Call Alan Miller 969-1612 to confirm your reservation.

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**The Triangle
Orchid Society meets
at the Sarah P. Duke
Gardens, Durham,
NC
The Second
Monday of the
Month
at 7:30 PM**

**www.Triangle
OrchidSociety.org**

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Minutes of the Last Meeting

The March meeting of the Triangle Orchid Society was held on Monday the 14th, at the Duke Gardens in Durham NC. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Terry Moorhead. The minutes from the last meeting and the treasurer's report were accepted as printed in the February newsletter.

Announcements made: membership dues are now owing, and should be paid to Treasurer Mike Wagner. There will be an Orchid Faire, with TOS members selling plants, at The Orchid Trail in Morrisville on Saturday April 16th. The public is very welcome—please tell your friends. The Board is still collecting the volunteer forms from members—turn yours in if you have not already done so. The Howells will be selling off a lot of their plant collection.

Lynnette's Greenhouse is closing.

The speaker, Dr. Glen Lehr of New World Orchids then presented the Show Table. After the break for refreshments, Dr. Lehr gave his presentation, with many beautiful slides of The Tokyo Orchid Show, Japanese temples, flowering trees, waterfalls, etc.

The Jack Webster Show Table awards were voted on.

In The Greenhouse Grown category, first place went to *Dendrobium sulcatum* grown by John Stanton, second place went to an *Ascocentrum miniatum* also grown by John Stanton, and third place went to a

Leptotes bicolor grown by Paul Feaver. In the Non-Greenhouse Grown category, first place went to a Brassia Rex grown by Judith Goldstein, second place went to a Masdevallia Principe grown by Jamie Graff, and third place went to a Blc Memoria Julie Baston, also grown by Jamie Graff.

After drawing for several raffle plants, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm. Minutes submitted by Judith Goldstein, Secretary.



RAFFLE PLANT

Bl. Morning Glory won by Judith Goldstein. It is a primary hybrid between *Brassavola nodosa* x *Laelia purpurata*.

Free Raffle tickets:

Bring up to 5 flowering orchids for the show table and get 5 raffle tickets.

Orchid Faire

Member Plant Sale - Open to the Public

**When: Saturday April 16, 2005
10:00A.M.—4:00P.M.**

**Where: The Orchid Trail
302 Church Street
Morrisville, NC 27560**



Orchid Classes

Growing Tips 11:00 AM
Potting Demo 1:00 PM

Greenhouse #1

Information : Peggy 919-732-1639 or
www.triangleorchidsociety.org
www.orchidtrail.com

Members selling plants: Bring a table and chairs to display your orchids.

**Jack Webster Show
Table Awards
Greenhouse Grown**

**First Place Ribbon to:
Dendrobium sulcatum grown
by John Stanton**



Second Place Ribbon to: *Ascocentrum miniatum* grown by John Stanton



**Third Place Ribbon to: *Leptotes bicolor*
grown by Paul Feather**

**Jack Webster Show
Table Awards
Non Greenhouse
Grown**

**First Place Ribbon to:
Brassia Rex grown by
Judith Goldstein**



**Third Place Ribbon to: Bc. Memoria Julie
Boston,**



**Second Place to: Masdevallia
Principe, grown by Jamie Graff**

Growing Tips for April

By Courtney T. Hackney EMAIL at Hackneau@bellsouth.net

In case you were not paying attention, the equinox has come and gone, which means that days are now more than 12 hours long. Indoor growers need to adjust lights now so that their orchids will begin preparing for next year's flowers. One of the most frequent misconceptions among indoor growers is that their lights should match the day length outside. If you remember that most orchids we grow are either tropical species or have tropical ancestors, it will be obvious that day length should not be as long in summer as in the temperate zone, nor should nights be as long in winter.

A good pattern is to provide 13 ½ hours of light during mid-summer and 13 ½ hours of dark in mid-winter. The key is to change the length of day or night with the season, which requires a three-hour change every six months. Most timers are in 15-minute increments, so increase the time by 30 minutes every month from December to June. Then subtract 30 minutes each month thereafter until December.

Many orchids will flower in response to increases or decreases in day length, so flowering can be controlled to some extent with many orchids. Remember though, there may be other important cues as well.

The growth cycle is also dependent on day length. This is

most critical for growth and survival of roots as growth may only occur during one time of year. If an orchid is repotted after root growth is completed, there may not be enough roots remaining to bloom well. Cattleyas are especially susceptible to poorly timed repotting. Old geezers (like me) pay close attention to when new roots are produced.

There are essentially three patterns, 1) new roots are produced before flowering, 2) new roots are produced after flowering, and finally 3) species that are each a little different. Most species and hybrids fall into

Bifoliate cattleyas in this group have the added problem of producing only a few thick roots with each growth, so repotting at the wrong time often leads to a slow decline and ultimate death in species such as schilleriana, leopoldii, bicolor, and granulosa.

one of the first two groups.

For many unifoliate cattleya species, such as mosisiae, trianaei, percivaliana, and schroederae, rooting occurs as the pseudobulbs grow with flowering following soon after. Some bifoliate, in-

cluding C aurantiaca, bowringiana, intermedia, and skinneri follow the same pattern. Flowers usually are produced during winter-spring. Repotting in winter or early spring means that new roots fill the pot before flowering. This "root before blooming" group and hybrids with the same characteristic are generally considered easier to grow.

A second pattern is the "root after blooming" group. These have the reputation of being hard to bloom and flower, but that is largely because of the time when most growers repot. In this type, new leads emerge in the late winter, spring or summer and bloom as the bulb matures. Only after flowering does the plant get new roots. Repotting as the new growth begins deprives the new bulb of the nutrients required to grow and bloom because there are no new roots produced until after blooming. If repotted, cattleyas in this group will often forgo flowering and grow new roots instead.

The root after blooming group contains a number of unifoliate Cattleya species with a hard-to-grow reputation such as dowiana, lueddemanniana, warscewiczii, and warneri. Bifoliate cattleyas in this group have the added problem of producing only a few thick roots with each

growth, so repotting at the wrong time often leads to a slow decline and ultimate death in species such as schilleriana, leopoldii, bicolor, and granulosa. Better timing of repotting often solves the undeserved reputation of being hard to grow.

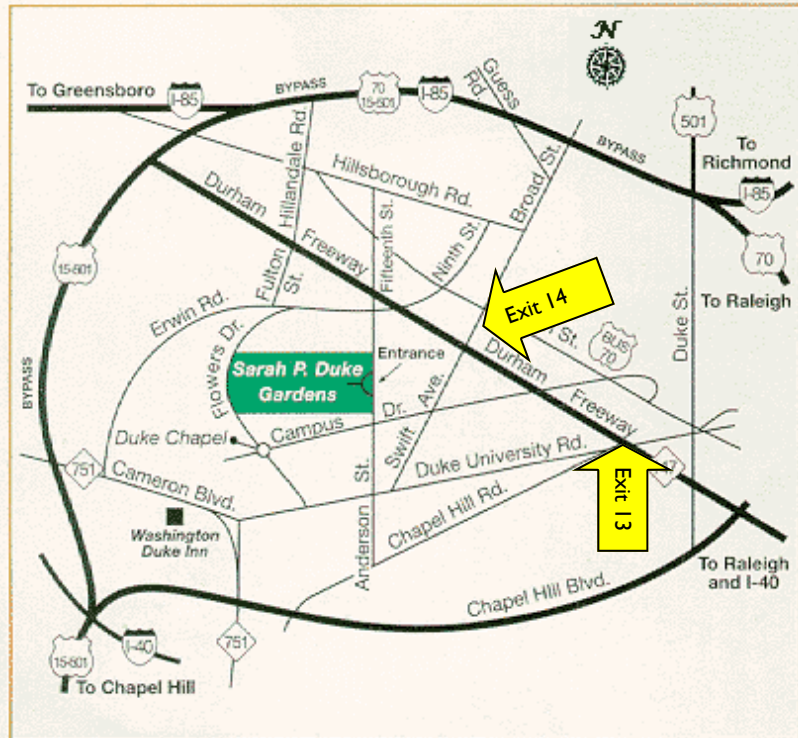
There are Cattleya species that produce new growths and roots several times during the year, such as C. aelandiae and walkeriana.

These species produce new growths and then new roots almost immediately.

If you are interested in learning more about Cattleya culture, including the details of each species and their rooting cycle, consult the article by William Rogerson in issue 4 of the Orchid Digest in 2004. Rogerson grows his cattleyas to perfection because he understands the growth cycle of his cattleyas.

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:	Calendar 2005	Speaker	Topic
7: 7:30 Set Up Show Table and Chairs	April 11	Bill Thoms Sarasota FL	Bulbophyllums and other Orchid Culture
7:30-7:45 Business Meeting, Announcements			
7:45-8:10 Show Table Review	May 9	James Rose Cal Orchid Inc Santa Barbara	Pescatoreas
8:10-8:30 Refreshment Break			
8:30-9:20 Program	June 13	Milton Carpenter Everglade	Warm Growing Cymbidiums
9:20-9:30 Show Table Awards, Raffle and Door Prizes			
9:30 P.M. Meeting Ends			

Welcome Table		Refreshments	
April	Philip Warner	Adrienne Dowler Erin Denoo	
May			



From the East. **Exit 13 on the Durham Freeway (#147)** South on Chapel Hill Rd. right on Anderson St. Gardens on left.

From the West. **Exit 14 on the Durham Freeway (147)** South on Swift Ave right on Campus Drive , right on Anderson St. Gardens on left.



Associated with Sarah P Duke Gardens

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Orchid Society meets at the
Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Durham, NC
The Second Monday of the Month
at 7:30 PM
Visitors are Welcome!

**www.TriangleOrchid
 Society.org**

April 11, Speaker
Bill Thoms, Sarasota FL
Bulbophyllums and other
Orchid Culture

Triangle Orchid Society Dues are:

\$18 per year single, or \$24 per year for two persons living at the same address.
 Mail to : Michael Wagner, Treasurer, 15 Wysteria Way, Chapel Hill, NC 27514-1637