Orchidacea

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

Speaker for Feb 14,2006, Scott Hartley,

Scott is a Park Superintendent at Weymouth Woods, Southern Pines, NC. He was born and raised in Blowing Rock, has a degree in Applied Science. Scott has over 20 years with NC State Parks Park Attendant at Mt Mitchell State Park, Park Ranger I;, at Ft Macon State Park, Park Ranger II

At Eno River State Park and is East District Interpretive Specialist Park Superintendent II at Weymouth Woods, Southern Pines. His favorite orchid is *Platanthera permaneoa*, the purple fringeless orchid. He can see a picture of it and it immediately transports him back to Mt. Mitchell State Park and can smell fir and spruce and remember seeing this flower in the cool mist.

The Sandhills region consists of nearly one million acres in south-central North Carolina. In the midst of this sandy terrain—famous for golf courses, peach orchards and horse farms—is Weymouth Woods, an 898-acre natural preserve.

A natural preserve, Weymouth Woods is different from traditional parks. This protected area serves to preserve and portray the natural features unique to its region. Weymouth Woods is a place where you can look at the longleaf pine forest and see how human actions have affected the environment, where you can learn about rare and endangered species—;the red-cockaded woodpecker, the pine barrens tree frog and the bog spicebush.

Walk the sandy paths of Weymouth Woods. Look to the canopy of its stately trees. Listen to the sounds of its woodlands. The fox squirrel, the longleaf pine and the role of fire are just a few of the subjects nature teaches in this fascinating ecosystem.

Weymouth Woods is located at: 1024 Fort Bragg Road, Southern Pines, NC 28387
Phone: (910) 692-2167
Email: weymouth.woods@ncmail.net

Jack Webster 's Calanthe Gores var 'Jean' AM/AOS ,81 pts was awarded on 1/25/ 06 at the Carolina Judging Center,

Inside this issue:

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

www.TriangleOrchidSociety.org

Platanthera permaneoa, Purple Frin
Orchid

TOS Officers and Board Members

President
Judith Goldstein
(919) 732-7622
Orangegr@earthlink.net

Vice President
Miriam Sagasti
919-942-9839
msagasti@mindspring.com

Secretary
Jaimie Graff
919-530-1806
Graff.Jaimie@epamail.epa.gov

Treasurer
Michael Wagner
919-692-3965
mjwagner@bellsouth.net

Board of Trustees: 2006
Past President
Terry Moorhead
(919)-688-9235
transichun@aol.co

Board of Trustees: 2006
Michael Joehrendt
919-) 8473598
Joehrend@bellsouth.net

Jack Webster
(910) 692-3965
JWebster@pinehurst.net

At Large Trustees 2007
Paul Virtue
(919) 846-1245
pvirtue@prodigy.net

Peggy Bloodworth
(919) 732-1639
grapib@mindspring.com

At Large Trustees 2008
Nicholas Plummer
nickplummer@nc.rr.com
(919) 969-9741
Robin Gurlitz
robing@i-gga.com
929--9717

Minutes of the Last Meeting January 9,2006

The new President, Judith Goldstein, opened the meeting at 7:30 pm. A motion was made to approve the December minutes. The motion was seconded and accepted. A motion was made to approve the December Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and approved. Judith welcomed one new member Sherri Wilshire and one guest, Sean Cole to the meeting.

Announcements:

Judith reminded people that the TOS Board meetings are open to all members, and that they take place at 6:30 pm on the third Monday of the month in the Library of the Duke Center.

TOS members are asked to pay their 2006 membership dues. The Treasurer has sent out a mailing reminding people of the benefits of TOS membership, and listing what contact information the TOS has for each member. Please look over these mailings for accuracy, and please return the form, with or without changes. This is the best way we have of making sure our database is accurate.

The order form for the Philippines orchid order, along with payment including 50% cost for shipping and handling, was due to Jack Webster at the meeting on January 9.

There was a problem with the print newsletter for December 2005; the Dec. 2004 issue was reprinted by mistake. Corrected print copies of the Dec. 2005 newsletter were available at the meeting for those who wished an accurate hard copy for their records.

It should be noted that the speakers from the next two meetings will not be bringing plants for sale. There will be member plants sales instead. Bring plants if you have any.

The season for orchid shows is upon us. There are three close by with which the TOS may be involved: The Triad Orchid Show in Greensboro, NC, sets up on Feb 2, the show is open from Feb 3-5, and take down is on the 5th. The South Carolina Orchid Society, in partnership with the Riverside Zoo, is holding a show from Feb 10-12 (set up on the 9th, take down on the 12th). Finally, the Sandhills Orchid Society is hosting a show at Weymouth House from Feb 23-26, with set up on the 22nd and take down on the 26th. If people would like to participate in the shows, offering plants, or labor to set up or tear down the displays, please contact Jack Webster or Judith Goldstein (contact information available on the website and newsletter). Jack Webster offered a few tips for grooming plants for a show : Remove dead leaves and bulbs and securely tie up the flower spikes). Try to support the flowers as best as possible, with them elevated to face the judges. Wash the leaves – a 50/50 mix of milk and water will remove residues and leave the leaves glossy. Any plant is suitable to enter; at a show it is judged against its neighbor and may be the only one of its class present. If you like it, show it. Outstanding plants will be judged at the AOS level, against the AOS historical record. Call Jack or Judith if you have a plant, they will organize pick up and return. Around 50 plants will be needed for the first show.

John Stanton, proprietor of The Orchid Trail, brought a lovely Laelia anceps for the January raffle. He also brought a number of plants donated to the society by a customer who was moving and could no longer keep the plants.

The speaker, Stephen Champlin of Floralia Orchids, presented the show table.

The meeting recessed for refreshments and the opportunity to purchase Floralia plants. The meeting returned to order and Mike Corry introduced the speaker at 8:45.

The Jack Webster awards for best show table plants were selected after Stephen Champlin finished his whirlwind tour of Brazilian Laelias. Greenhouse Grown Plants: First place went to Paul Fever's *Encyclia vitellina* ,

Second place went to John Stanton's Masdevallia Marmalade , and third place went to John Martin's *Paphiopedilum sanderianum x Paph moquettianum a* primary hybrid. Non-Greenhouse grown winners were as follows: First place: Bc Maikai 'Louise', grown by Jaimie Graff, Second place: Rntda Alice Crimson var. Mary Motes, grown by Jaimie Graff, Third place: Bllra. Tahoma Glacier grown by Judith Goldstein. Congratulations went to all growers. Drawings were made for the raffle plants, and the meeting adjourned shortly before 10 pm.

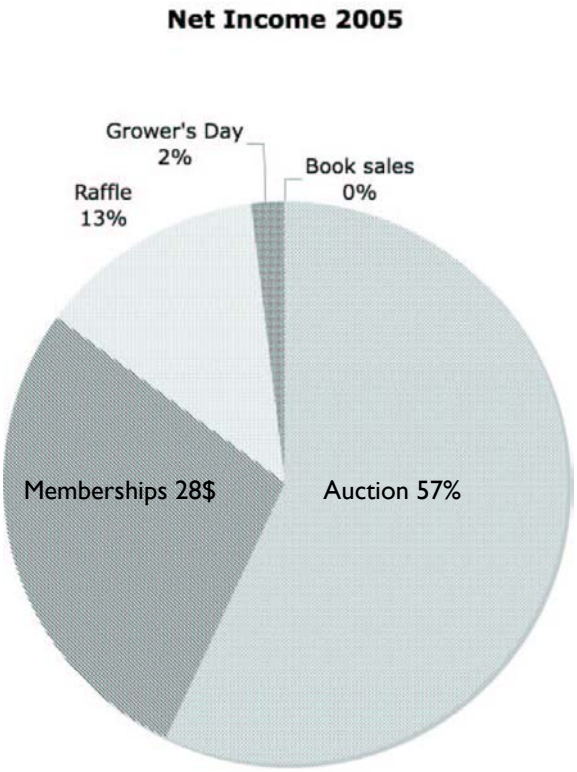
Jaimie Graff, Secretary

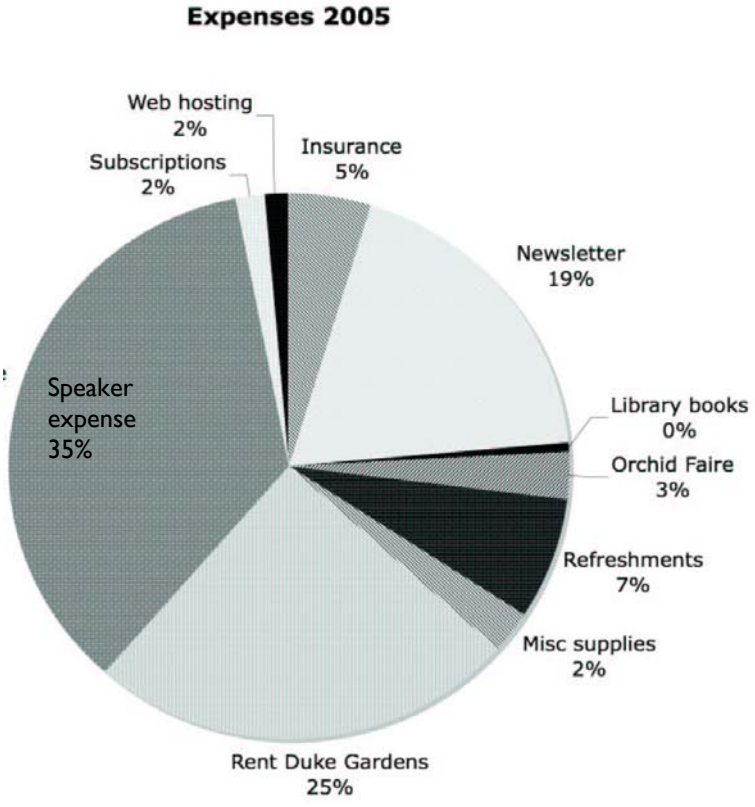
Financial Report for 2005

The TOS Board of Directors is responsible for insuring that the society remains financially solvent. The Society's expenses must be paid for out of the proceeds of activities that generate net income. The following is a brief summary of the Society's finances in 2005.

The first chart shows the proportion of net income derived from different TOS activities. Net income is the money left over after expenses for conducting a given event or activity are subtracted from the gross proceeds derived from that event or activity. It is what TOS has available to pay for expenses and activities that do not generate income. The largest source of net income is our plant auctions, followed by membership dues and plant raffles. Grower's Day and Book Sales are not intended to be fund-raising activities, and they essentially break even. Our auctions last year were very successful, but income from auctions can be quite variable, depending on how many plants are donated, how much advance publicity we receive, and particularly on how the weather turns out on the day of the auction. Membership dues are a more reliable source of income, accounting for nearly 30% of our net income in 2005, which is why we keep asking you to pay your dues! The next chart shows how we spend the income derived from fundraising activities. The largest single item is paying the travel expenses for the speakers at our monthly meetings, followed by rental of the facilities at Sarah P. Duke Gardens for our meetings, and printing and mailing of our monthly newsletter. These three items together account for nearly 80% of our expenses.

Treasurer's Report,





SPEAKER PRESENTATION:

Michael Cory, Vice President, introduced our speaker, Stephen Champlin of Floralia, whose topic was *Brazilian Laelias*. Stephen said that in the future you will see that what we have formerly known as Brazilian Laelias in 3 or possibly 4 different new genera. Mainly the cattleya types (catolaelia, purpurata and crispae types) and the pumila types will be called hadrolaelia from now on as is proposed for Brazilians; the parviflorae will be known as Hoffmanseggella, don't ask him why and he's not sure where they will put Perrinii yet. The kautskyana [sp?] and the Harpophylla (another section of Parviflorae) are going to be put in dumsia.

He talked about the laelias of Brazil today, the types, how they grow, and where they grow. He began by showing a climatical map of Brazil. Most people think of Brazil as being made up of the Amazon. Some other main areas to know about are the Atlantic forest, next to the ocean. At one time it was very rich in orchids. It has almost been denuded of forests now. There is an inland area, a central plateau area that is like a dry savannah area. It doesn't get a lot of rain for a lot of the year. Elevation is anywhere from 2000 ft to 4500-5000 ft. He pointed to an area that is very warm and tropical but if you go inland it is dry like a desert. After the map he talked about the laelias. They don't exist beyond the coastal and inland plateau areas shown. They don't exist in the Amazon. Most come from the south along the Atlantic forest area and southwest area, and the interior shown earlier.

The national flower of Brazil is *L purpurata*. There are shows in Brazil that consist of purpuratas only. There are many different colored varieties. Some are named for what color they are while others are named for how the color is formed in the lip or the petals, etc. The most basic form is the virginalis or *alba* [*L purpurata alba*] form. The *osso* designation comes from the Portuguese for 'steel' referring to the fact that steel has a purplish warm glow to it. The purple-violet and it is sometimes sold by this name. *Annuletta* means ring and is named for the ring on the inside of its lip. The end of the lip has no coloration whatsoever. *Carnea* has been cultivated in the United States (US) for 50-60 years and this is probably the kind you might have. He showed a dark lip one where the dark meaty color refers to the upper lip. *Estidiata* has very well defined stripes on the petals. *Flamea* has almost a perfectly solid purple. *Roxo-bispo* refers to the purple robe of the Catholic bishop. *Russelliana* is named for the light pink color with salmon in it. *Oculata* refers to the color of the separated eyes on the lip and *sanguinea* to the deep blood red. He gave the chronology of the blooming times of the purpuratas mentioned above and the sequence of blooming has *sanguinea* blooming almost a month later than the others. *Recalzeri,* also a late season bloomer, is named for the slate-blue lip seen in true *recalzeri.*

The large flowering and large plants are all included in what used to be called the *Crispa* group. *L crispa* looks like a purpurata but plants tend to be taller with smaller flowers and a lot of times more flowers per stem. Crispilabia refers to the waviness of the petals and sepals. *L fidelensis* is found in only one place in Brazil that has now been deforested so there is probably none in the wild. It is very hard to find it in cultivation. It is very slow to grow until it gets to intermediate form when it then grows easily. *L grandis* is warm growing needing a minimum of 58-59 degrees F and needing some shade. It is a nice tawny brown color and bright red to red-pink lip. *L lobata* is seen near Rio de Janeiro where it grows on cliff bases next to the ocean. It grows on granite outcroppings there and in the city too. The way to make it flower is to mistreat it. It gets salt spray. Let it overgrow the pot. Let it almost get burnt by the sun. Then it will flower! They come in different colors. *L tenebrosa* you may have seen in late spring shows. They are warmer growing in temperatures ranging from the mid 50s to 90s F. The alba form is light

green with pure white lip is very rare. The last one in this group is *L xanthina*, not seen in collections very much. The flowers are kind of insignificant. It looks like someone took the lip and chopped it off on the end. When it gets to a good size it looks OK.

The next group looks like a purpurata but is a little shorter, *L perrinii*. They have an interesting leaf structure. Pseudobulbs are very narrow at the beginning, grow fat and then narrow again to a long thin leaf. Their large flowers can be up to 6 inches across and lay very flat in a plane. The lip is coerulea and they have very pale blue petals.

L harpophylla is the first of the Parvifloraes. It is an epiphyte. They tend to be a little intermediate to warm growing. They can tolerate some cold and flowers are about 2 inches across. A mature plant will have 8-12 flowers. They are tough to grow. Another put in this group, *L carbifolium* [sp?], has very thin pseudobulbs and long thin leaves. They don't like to dry out. Flowers are rounder. They are bright light yellow as opposed to the orange of the *harpophylla*.

The *Hadrolaelia* section is defined by laelia that are short in stature but have large flowers for the size of the plant. Plants tend to be less than 4-6 inches. He also showed *dayana* and they get 1-2 flowers per spike. One not like that is *jungheana*. They are very hard to grow. They grow natively at 4000 ft. They are best grown on a slab. They are worth growing because flowers are about 6 inches across. They are a bright pink color offset by a yellow lip. People tend to know the *pumila*. They have big flowers for the size plant. *Pumila* like a lot of bright light and work well mounted or may work well to put it in a basket in the greenhouse. Semi alba forms and coerulea forms were shown. Early hybrids from *pumila* may have been from L. *spectabilis*. They have rounder flowers and a big lip. *L sincorana* is another.

Another section of parviflorae is rock-dwelling (rupicolous) laelias. They grow into the interior and farther north. It is very hard to grow because they come from elevations of about 4000 ft. *L angereri* has a bright orange color and flowers are well separated. They are nice to grow. *Bahiensis* is another. Don't put in a deep soggy mix. There are 2 ways to avoid that. Don't over pot, only put in a pot ½ to 1 inch larger than roots. Or, take ½ a pot and put in well-drained material like perlite or gravel and put the mix above it. It also helps to use a clay pot. Roots don't go far down, they go out. *L flava* was once common but is not seen much anymore. They are kind of nice but have a long stem with a crown of flowers at the top. These are the most common rupicolous laelias in Brazil. L. *Cinnabarina* grow on mountaintops and get moisture from cloud cover. Grasses around them protect them. *Sanguiloba* has a blood-red side of the lip. *Milleri* is bright red and used extensively in breeding and also come in orange. *Mixta* comes in yellow. All previous types are tall-stemmed.

Smaller rupicolous types are next. Normally they are 3-4 inches tall or smaller with a stem about 1 inch tall. He said they are worth growing because of the clumps of flowers having 2, 4, or 5 flowers on the stem. They make a nice display. One he showed was *ghillanyi* (bright pink with 25% or so having splashes on petals).

Even smaller are the following 3 shortest (½ to ¾ of an inch tall and flowers are about the size of your thumb). They are *reginae*, *lilliputiana*, and *kettieana* .

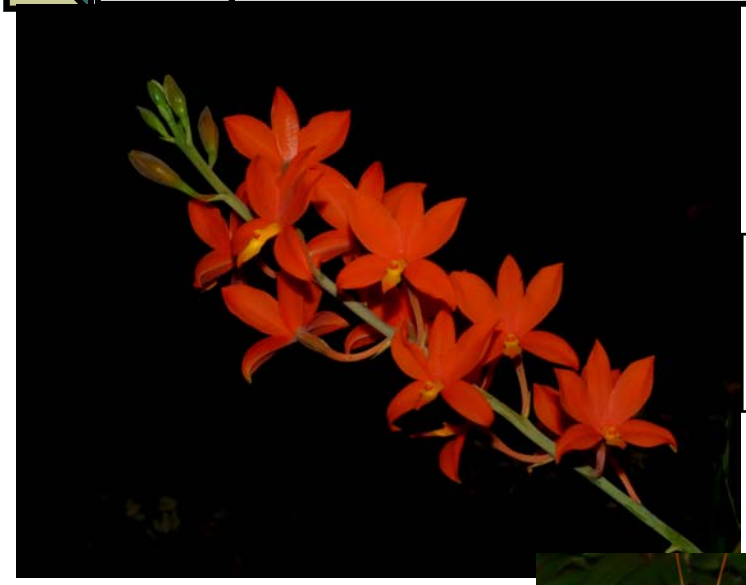
Transcription by Cara Hayes, Secretary,

Sandhills Orchid Society..

February and March

"Member Plant Sale" Bring Your divisions and seedlings marked with a price tag. Those in flower sell best.

Jack Webster Show Table Awards Greenhouse Grown



First Place Ribbon went to *Encyclia vitellina* grown by Paul Feaver

Second Place Ribbon went to Masdevallia. Marmalade (*M. barlaeana 'Harold' x M. strobelli 'Wisker'*) grown by John Stanton

Third Place Ribbon went to *Paphiopedilum sanderianum x Paph moquettianum* grown by *John Martin*

Jack Webster Show Table Awards Non Greenhouse Grown

First Place Ribbon went to Bc. Maikai 'Louise'AM/AOS grown by Jaimie Graff

Second Place Ribbon went to Rntda. Alice Crimson var 'Mary Motes' AM/AOS grown by Jaimie Graff

Third Place Ribbon went to Bllra. Tahoma Glacier Grown by Judith Goldstein

Growing Tips for February

By Courtney T. Hackney

EMAIL at Hackneau@bellsouth.net

Orchid plants need roots! That statement seems so obvious that many of us forget the pivotal role this part of the plant plays. Much of the other aspects of orchid culture, e.g. light intensity, fertilizer, etc, all depend on the mass of tissues we call roots.

In nature, most epiphytes, i.e. orchids growing attached to trees, have far more living root tissues than leaves, bulbs, and stems. That ratio of roots to leaves & stems tells us that the plant is limited by either water or nutrients, both of which are taken up by roots. The fact that roots quickly penetrate into the growing medium and around and on the pot of our orchids in culture tells us that they too require these water & nutrients for growth.

Over the years, I have visited many commercial and hobby orchid growers and observed all kinds of orchids being grown both poorly and well. The one great surprise is that there is no universal set of cultural techniques used by great growers. One hobbyist claimed that he never or rarely fertilized and grew in very high light. While his orchids' leaves were yellow green, they were clearly blooming and growing well. Another excellent grower fertilized every time he watered, except for flushing without fertilizer once a month. He too, had beautifully grown plants and excellent flowers. The one difference between the orchids in these two greenhouses was the quantity of roots on orchids from these two growers.

Orchids fertilized with every watering had fewer roots than my own plants, while orchids that were never fertilized had at least twice as many. It has always been very easy to move plants into my culture when they had more roots than when they had less.

Most orchid hobbyists purchase orchids for the flowers and may casually look at leaves and bulbs. The roots, however, hold the key to growing this orchid after it finishes flowering. An orchid with few roots relative to the weight of leaves will need to spend much of the energy derived from photosynthesis growing roots unless it has constant moisture and nutrients. Satisfying this requirement can be difficult for most hobbyists, especially if the medium in which you grow is coarse, or you grow in high light or heat. It does not matter if there were never roots on the plant or that they were killed by over watering, the effect is the same and the remedy is to grow more roots.

Once roots are lost it is very difficult for the hobbyist to get adequate nutrients into the orchid plant since roots are the main route into the plant. Some growers claim great success "foliar feeding" orchids. Most scientific studies have not been able to verify nutrient uptake through this method. The waxy leaf tissues prevent water loss and consequently water gain. The only exceptions are the stomata underneath leaves. These open to admit carbon dioxide and release water vapor for cooling.

When roots are lost it is necessary to reduce all factors which tend to remove water from the plant and to encourage new root growth. Withholding water from the plant will encourage new root growth in most hybrids and some species. This must be accompanied by high humidity and lower light to avoid overly desiccating the plant. Vandas and phals, or any member of the vandaceous or angracoid group can be encouraged to grow their few, thick roots by applying one of the commercial root-inducing hormones, usually dissolved in lanolin and sold as a paste. This works extremely well and is well worth the cost to save a few plants.

For orchids such as cattleyas, oncidiums, dendrobiums and even paphs, fertilizing with a fertilizer made from seaweed will often stimulate both root growth and multiple new growths. These fertilizers contain auxins, plant hormones in tiny quantities that are enough to initiate new growth. I recently added one of the powdered root-inducing hormones (RooTone) to my fertilizer water to try to stimulate new growth and was rewarded by lots of new roots in the next few weeks.

Root growth for some orchid species, though, is almost impossible to initiate except at very specific times in the growth cycle. Some bifoliate cattleya species only put out a very small number of roots and if these are damaged or destroyed, there will be no growth until the following year at the same time. Once roots are lost from these orchids it is necessary to fool the plant into initiating another growth cycle by altering day length and temperature. Do not try this unless you know exactly what conditions are necessary to stimulate root growth.

The sun is getting higher on the horizon and unprotected orchids on the windowsill and near the greenhouse glazing can burn. It is easy to tell if your plants are getting too much sunshine by examining leaf pigments. More red color and natural pigmentation is a sign that it is time to add shading.

New Books for the Library: Orchids by Ned Nash and Isabel Lacroix, An Illustrated Survey by Tom and Marion Sheehan; The Orchid in Lore and Legend by Luigi Berliocchi.

A request for carpooling for some members who can't drive at night has been made. Anyone who can volunteer to drive or needs a ride should contact Judith Goldstein at (919) 732-7622 or Orangegr@earthlink.net

A 50 sq foot TOS exhibit was put in at the Triad Orchid Society Show in Greensboro on February 2nd by Jack Webster, Judith Goldstein, Alan Miller, Peggy and Jeff Bloodworth. Take Down by Jaimie and Ron Graff

The Sandhills Orchid Society Show is in Weymouth House Southern Pines, from Feb 23-25, 2006. The TOS will participate. .

The South Carolina Orchid Society, in partnership with the Riverside Zoo, is holding a show from Feb 10-12 (set up on the 9th, take down on the 12th).

The Blue Ridge Orchid Society show is in Roanoke in May, 2006.

9 TOS members met with the speaker for dinner last month. If you would like to dine with the speaker; we have dinner at the Neo China Restaurant at 5:30 before the meeting. Call Alan Miller for reservations before 5PM Monday at 969-1612

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:

7: 7:30 Set Up Show Table and Chairs

7:30-7:45 Business Meeting, Announcements

7:45-8:10 Show Table Review

8:10-8:30 Refreshment Break

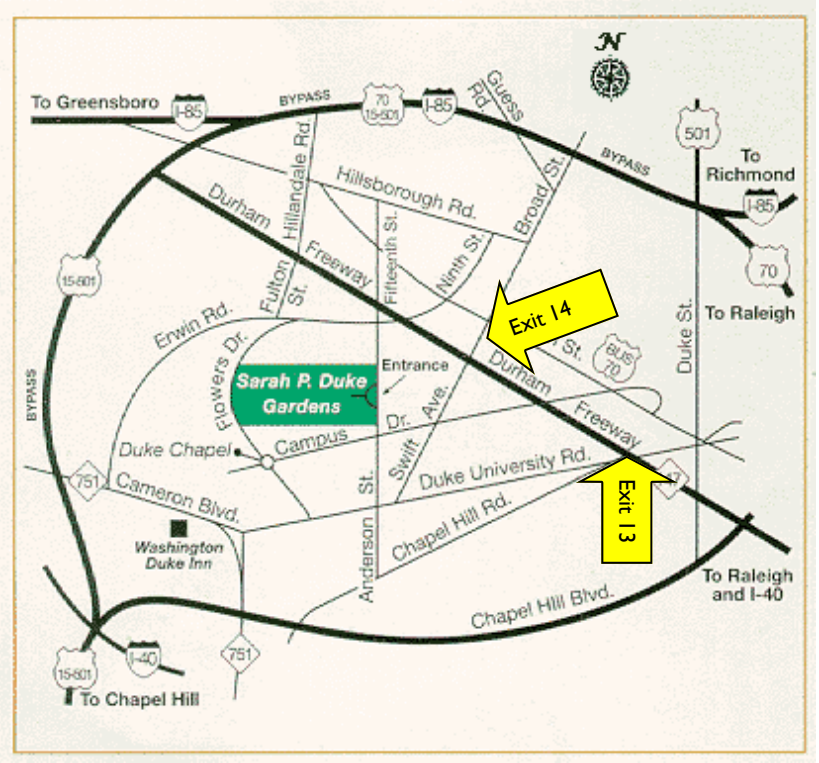
8:30-9:20 Program

9:20-9:30 Show Table Awards, Raffle and Door Prizes

9:30 P.M. Meeting Ends

Calendar 2006	Speaker	Topic
February 13th	Park Ranger Weymouth Nature Preserve	NC Native Orchids & Member Plant Sale
March 13th	TOS Members	Growing Orchids in NC & Member Plant Sale
April 10th	Tom Harper Stones River Orchids TN	Influence of certain species in Phal hybridizing

Welcome Table	Refreshments
February 13th	Barbara and Stan Martinkosky	Cricket Taylor and Vicky Brawley
March 13th	Judith Shapiro	Robin and Josh Gurlitz



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.

The Triangle 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

Speaker for Feb 13th

Scott Hartley, Park Superintendent at Weymouth Woods, Southern Pines

ORCHID SOCIETY TRIANGLE NORTH CAROLINA

Associated with Sarah P Duke Gardens

Alan J. Miller, Editor
5703 Orange Grove Rd.
Hillsborough, NC 27278
Fax 801/760-9812
Phone (919) 969-1612
Email:Orchidacea @att.net

2006 Triangle Orchid Society Dues

"If you haven't already renewed your TOS membership for 2006, please send your dues in to the TOS treasurer, Michael Wagner, 15 Wysteria Way, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.