



Orchidacea

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

SPEAKER JUNE 9, 2008 Steve Frowine

Steve Frowine is a self-proclaimed "plant nerd." Ever since he was a kid he's loved plants. "I started helping my neighbor, 'Miz' Connell weed her garden when I was a youngster," says Steve. "I've had my nose in plants ever since." His dad, a successful lawyer in Portsmouth, Ohio, wasn't sure that horticulture was a field his son should study. To test him, he got young Steve a job at a local florist, instructing the owner to "pay him a Pepsi a day and work him hard." It backfired. Steve loved the job so much he was bent on studying horticulture in college and making it his career.

His fixation with orchids started in junior high school when his dad brought one back as a present from Florida. Now Steve resides in Ajijic, Mexico where he grows a wide range of orchids outdoors. Usually Steve has little patience for plants that don't bloom, but not so with orchids. "I've been growing a division of a lady slipper orchid (*Paphiopedilum* Langley Pride 'Burlingame' HCC/AOS) for 26 years. It finally bloomed for the first time this winter," he says. Now that's obsession!

Mr. Horticulture - Steve's resume reads like a list of the top organizations and companies in the U.S. horticultural world. He has worked at the Missouri Botanical Garden, National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii, Cleveland Botanical Garden, Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center, W. Atlee Burpee, White Flower Farm, Etera, International Garden Products, and Dutch Gardens. He's written articles for most major gardening magazines and has been on the boards of the Garden Writers Association (GWA), National Gardening Association (NGA), and American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta (AABGA) and on the Visiting Committee of Longwood Gardens. Steve has written four orchid books, *Orchids for Dummies* by published by Wiley and *Fragrant Orchids*, *Miniature Orchids*, and his forthcoming book, due out in August 2008, *Moth Orchids*, the *Complete Guide to Phalaenopsis*, by Timber Press.

Through all these changes and years in horticulture, one area that has remained constant is Steve's love of growing orchids. Now, the passion for orchids has caught on with amateur and professional gardeners alike.

Steve may be contacted at: Segundo Guadalupe Victoria, Privada #7, Ajijic, Jalisco, Mexico 45920 Phone: 011-52-376-766-5270,

Email: SteveFrow@aol.com, Website:

<http://members.authorsguild.net/stevefrow/>

6:45-7 PM Paul Feaver will do an **Orchid Mounting Demonstration**. **June Speaker will not** be bringing plants for sale. **Local Grower**, Orchid Trail (John Stanton) will have orchids from his greenhouses for sale. Member sale next month (July).

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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 TOS meeting of May 11th, 2008 was called to order by President Paul Virtue at 7 :30 PM. Minutes of the April 14th meeting were approved without changes. Guest Lisa Bukovnik and new member Joseph McCoy, who grows cattleyas, were welcomed.

John Stanton ran a pre-meeting mini-clinic on how to repot orchids. John gave an excellent hands-on presentation to a large group of members.

President Paul Virtue acknowledged Alan Miller who presented Jack Webster with the Orchid Digest's Award of Excellence from the Triangle Orchid Society. This prestigious award was given in recognition of all Jack Webster has contributed to the Triangle Orchid Society: several officer positions, several terms on the board of trustees, two time past president, director of the speaker program for over a decade, and many other contributions to the smooth operation and success of our society. Congratulations Jack on an award well deserved!!

Growers Day will be Saturday, June 7th at the Raulston Arboretum near NC State from 9:30 AM – 4:30 PM. Our morning speaker will be Linda Thorne, an American Orchid Society Judge, Officer of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance, commercial grower, and orchid hybridizer. She will be speaking on the culture and care of phalaenopsis. Our afternoon speaker will be Steven Frowine, a national horticultural expert and author of four books on orchids: Orchids for Dummies; Fragrant Orchids: A Guide to Selecting, Growing, and Enjoying; Miniature Orchids; and soon to be

published this summer, Moth Orchids- The Complete Guide to Phalaenopsis. These books will be available for sale at Growers Day where Steve will be conducting a book signing. Tuition for Growers Day is \$25 for the entire day, which includes morning and afternoon lectures, a catered lunch, and a blooming size orchid. Please make checks payable to Triangle Orchid Society and mail them to: Bob Meyer, 110 Widecombe Ct., Cary, NC 27513 by June 3rd or call Bob at 919-469-9149 for last minute reservations.

Some Ching Hua orchid plants did not get to their owners. If you had a problem with your order, please contact Paul Virtue.

The society spring auction is this Sunday, May 18th at Umstead Park. Potluck at noon, with auction starting at 1:00 PM.

Since our speaker, Ron Parson, did not bring orchids, a member's orchid sale was held this month with some very nice plants at bargain prices. The TOS will plan to have two member sales per year. This is a great opportunity to sell divisions of your plants, free up bench or window sill space, and get a great deal on purchasing different plants for your collection.

Before the break, our speaker, Ron Parson, presented the Show Tables and Jack Webster selected the Award Plants. Thank you Olivine Virtue and Judith Shapiro for staffing the Welcome Table, and Creighton Humphreys and Susan Morand for hosting our Hospitality Table.

Award Plants:

Non-Greenhouse Grown Category: 1st Place – Psychopsis papilio by George Bizub, 2nd Place Doritaenopsis 'Red Gem' AM HOS, and 3rd Place – Pink Phalaenopsis by Judi Powell

Greenhouse Grown Category: 1st Place – Cattleya mossiae by Paul Virtue, 2nd Place – Laelia milleri by Nick Plummer, and 3rd Place Cattleya Warneri coerulea x Exima by Olivine Virtue.

A nice selection of orchids were raffled off and the meeting was adjourned by 9:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by Bob Meyer, Secretary.

Transcript of Last Month's Speaker

Ron Parsons has two identities. One is that of a gardener with the City of San Francisco. The second is that of world-class photographer in relentless pursuit of orchids in their native environments. It is in this capacity he has traveled the world and amassed a collection of over 60,000 slides. He has also published a book on Masdevallias and is currently at work collecting photos for an upcoming book on Mariposa lilies.

Ron pulled together a collection of his slides for a presentation of orchids that he feels are both "Rare" and "Unusual". Because there was so much information in his presentation I could not write fast enough to get the full names of all the plants. The following is an abbreviated list. If I didn't catch the species name, I've simply provided some basic information about the genus. Get on the internet and try to determine what species he was talking about.

Ornithocephalus - epiphytes from Costa Rica and Central America. These plants lack pseudobulbs. The inflorescence overlaps the foliage and they grow well mounted.

Telipogon - a cool growing genus from higher elevations in South America. They require constant high humidity and good air movement. The flower is often larger than the plant itself. The lips mimic the specific variety of fly that is its pollinator.

Trichocentrum - another cool growing genus. They have short rhizomes and like to climb. Generally cool to intermediate grower.

Tolumnias - this group of plants were formerly known as *Equitant Oncidium*s. They are native to the Caribbean islands and do well mounted. They have fine wiry roots that like to be exposed, and on a mount, need to be watered thoroughly daily.

Oncidium cheiroporum - a native of El Salvador and Columbia. It is a small plant whose pseudobulbs are only an inch high. The flowers are less than an inch in width, but it blooms profusely, putting on an impressive display.

Rhynchostylis - a Central American species that grows at moderate to high altitudes in moist cloud forests. It is a cool grower that likes humidity and lots of shade.

Dendrophylax - A genus with only eight species, which are better known as Ghost Orchids. These are leafless, nearly stemless orchids with greenish, flat roots that are capable of photosynthesis. The plant consists solely as a mass of roots, growing attached to tall trees in swampy areas. This plant has been in the news recently when a species, unique to the Cayman islands, was confiscated by Dutch authorities enforcing CITES regulations. The plant was being sent to England where it was to have been the star of the Chelsea flower show. Here in the US, our own Ghost Orchids are found in Florida in the Fakahatchee State Preserve State Park, in Florida.

Dimorphorchis lowii - a species from the lowland hill forests of Borneo that closely resemble *Vandas* in their growth habit. They flower on long, pendulous inflorescences and need full sun, high humidity and good air movement.

Amesiella philippinense - a miniature plant from the Philippines. This plant resembles *Angraecum* from Africa, but unlike *Angraecums*, it has no scent. This plant has no pseudobulbs, needs to be kept moist in indirect bright light.

Phalaenopsis appendicula - a miniature *Phal* endemic to the Malaya Peninsula notable for the fact that it is a miniature, and it is deciduous as it comes from a pronounced mon-



**Jack Webster Awards
Greenhouse Grown**

***Cattleya mossiae*, 1st first place
ribbon, grown by Paul Virtue**



***Laelia milleri*, 2nd place ribbon, grown by
Nick Plummer**



***Cattleya Warneri*, *coerulea*
x *Exima*, 3rd place ribbon
grown by Olivine Virtue**

**Jack Webster Awards
Non Greenhouse
Grown**



Psychopsis papilio 1st place
ribbon grown by George Bizub



Doritaenopsis Kyoto 'Red Gem' AM
HOS x self, 2nd place ribbon grown
by Nolan Newton



Unnamed phalaenopsis,
3rd place ribbon, grown by
Judi Powell

Spring Auction at Umstead State Park

About 40 members & guests attended the Auction. To hundred and fifty orchids were auctioned off. Gross sales of \$4,000. following a covered dish lunch.



Leo Sagasti and Jaimie Graff deciding what to bid on.



Rick Cavallaro, and Bob Davidson were 2 of the 3 auctioneers.

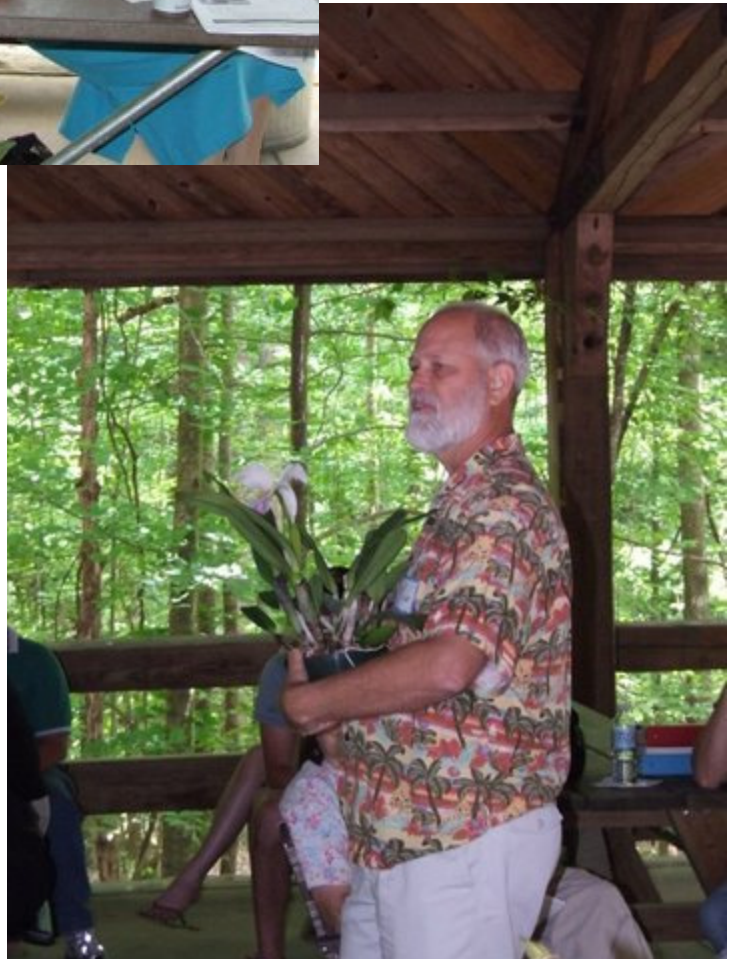




Judith Goldstein was the Auction chairperson. Bob Meyer did the Advertising and Public Relations. Robin Gurlitz arranged the covered dish luncheon and registered all participants. Josh Gurlitz and Penny Joehrendt kept track of the bidding and the billing of the bidders.



Rick got a \$62 bid on this angraecum eburneum with no pot



Mike Joehrendt "The pot is worth more than that bid. Who will give me \$20.00" for this blooming Cattleya?"

soonal habitat. The lip is tri-lobes, with the two side lobes rolling back into a U-shape.

Stanhopeas range from Mexico to Brazil. The emerging flowers develop downward, emerging through the bottom of the basket. The flowers are rather bizarre in their shape and only last 1 - 2 days, however the plant will continue to send out inflorescences for a prolonged period of time.

Paphina is a small genus of 10 species found from Venezuela to Bolivia. They grow in very wet forests and do well on mounts if watered daily. The inflorescence is pendant and can reach over 12". They do well with intermediate conditions and abundant water year round.

Coryanthes - from tropical America. The lip forms a bucket into which the pollinating euglossine bees fall. They grow in ant nests in very wet forests, and do well when grown in baskets, kept wet and fertilized heavily. The inflorescence is pendant.

Maxillaria sanderiana is a spectacular species that grows from Peru to Ecuador. They are very large plants with pendent inflorescences. The flowers are very large and resemble a *Lycaste*, but are white with blood red spots. They are extremely fragrant. They are cool growers, and require high humidity and good ventilation.

Zygopetalums are highly variable South American species known for their large lips and somewhat bizarre colors. They are extremely fragrant. Most hybridizing has taken place in New Zealand, with many new hybrids available currently.

Promenaea are from central and southern Brazil. These are small plants that need abundant water and intermediate conditions. They are relatively easy to grow and will quickly form an impressive plant mass.

Huntleya is a genus of only ten species found from Costa Rica to Bolivia. They lack pseudobulbs but have a creeping growth habit so are best grown on mounts. They come from extremely wet cloud forests and should never be allowed to dry out. The flowers are generally brown or yellow with red marking and have a very heavy substance, appearing almost to be shell-lacked.

Neomooreas are found in Panama and northern Colombia. They grow as epiphytic or terrestrial plants in moist cloud forests. They become very large plants and have very large flowers, and can grow into spectacular specimen plants.

Catasetum tenebrous - One of the most interesting of the *Catasetums*, *tenebrosa* is native to Peru and Brazil. It can bloom with either male or female flowers. The male flowers have dark burgundy sepals and petals while the lip is a bright lime green. Female flowers are apple green, with a heavy substance. The dorsal sepal forms a hood over the lip, and the sepals and petals fold inward, forming a cupped, closed flower.

Mormodes - another genus with bizarre, truly weird flowers. These are native to Mexico and Bolivia.

Transcript by Joy Lemieux, Sandhills Orchid Society

Growers Day Seminar June 7, 2008

On Saturday, June 7th, 2008 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM, the Triangle Orchid Society will hold its Annual Growers Day Seminar series at the Ruby McSwain Education Center of the JC Raulston Arboretum at NC State University, 4415 Beryl Rd, Raleigh, NC 27695.

Our morning speaker will be Linda Thorne, owner of Seagrove Orchids. Linda is an American Orchid Society Judge, Officer of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance, commercial grower, and orchid hybridizer. She will be speaking on the culture and care of Moth Orchids – Phalaenopsis.

Our afternoon speaker will be Steven Frowine, a national horticultural expert and author of four books on orchids: *Orchids for Dummies*; *Fragrant Orchids: A Guide To Selecting, Growing, and Enjoying*; *Miniature Orchids*; published this spring; *Moth Orchids – The Complete Guide To Phalaenopsis*. These books will be available for sale at Growers Day where Steve will be conducting a book signing.

Attendees will learn from expert growers how to grow different types of orchids in the home and greenhouse. The program will benefit the windowsill grower, novice orchid collector, and those just curious to know why so many people are growing orchids these days.

Tuition for the Triangle Orchid Society Growers Day is \$25.00 for the entire day which includes morning and afternoon lectures, a box lunch, and a blooming size orchid. Non-members will receive a free membership in the Triangle Orchid Society for the balance of 2008.

Reservations must be made in advance due to the availability of seats. Deadline for reservations is June 3rd, 2008.

Send checks payable to the Triangle Orchid Society to: TOS, Bob Meyer, 110 Widecombe Court, Cary, NC 27513.

For information, contact Bob Meyer at 919.469.9149 or go to

www.triangleorchidsociety.org >.

Directions

From the West or From the Raleigh/Durham Airport

Take I-85/I-40 East to Raleigh. Take exit #289 to Wade Avenue. Take the second exit on the right for Blue Ridge Road. At the top of the exit ramp, turn right on to Blue Ridge Road. Go to the third traffic light and turn left on Hillsborough Street. After driving under the Beltline, turn right (by the Waffle House) onto Beryl Road. Go over railroad tracks (bearing to the right) and continue straight ahead for about a half mile. The Arboretum's entrance is on the left shortly after Capitol City Lumber

Growing Tips for June

"THE MOVE" is done! About 4000 orchids (really just 852 unless you count the babies) have made the 458 mile trip south. There are many tricks to successfully moving a collection learned over the years, but each time I move my greenhouse and orchids there are some new lessons too. It does not matter if you are moving your orchids across the country or across town; the only difference is the time it takes to move.

The first trick is to avoid disease. When orchids are moved roots are damaged, leaves cracked, and blooms broken. Before making any move, do your best to eliminate any scale or rots in your collection. This may include isolating infected plants if there is not enough time to complete the treatment.

Treatment with an antibiotic/antifungal agent is also a good idea. Kocide is an old fashioned, but very effective copper-based, general fungicide and antibiotic that I like because it coats leaves light blue. For my purpose, that is ideal because I can tell that each plant has been treated. Treat a few days ahead of time to avoid any toxicity problems that might arise from handling your orchids. Check the product label to be sure of handling and reentry time.

It is also ideal to move your orchids after you have allowed them to dry thoroughly, even more than normal. Your orchids may seem unhappy to be so dry, but this, along with the Kocide tends to limit rots that turn up when orchids are packed tightly. In "Nature" orchids survive droughts just fine and will quickly re-hydrate once they are back in your new growing area.

During this time of year, orchids are in a growth mode, which means new growths and roots. There will be some inevitable damage, but this can be lessened by good planning. Plastic shipping containers can be purchased for any pot size. This commercial product is used by com-

mercial nurseries to move plants in flower and bud and provides space between plants. A piece of open newspaper over the pot opening before dropping in the pot will provide a physical barrier between plants, preventing possible transfer of bacteria and fungi from plant to plant. Roots will inevitably be damaged, allowing fluid to be transferred to other damaged roots. This is a prime way that viruses are transmitted.

If you are transporting your orchids by car or truck pay careful attention to temperature. In winter, it is a good idea to move during the day and in summer at night. Most garden stores sell remote digital thermometers used to remotely monitor your greenhouse temperature. These work equally well in a truck or in the trunk of a car, allowing you to assess any temperature extremes during the trip.

No matter how successful your growing was before, a new location will require some adaptation by both you and your orchids.

New water sources may require a change in fertilizer or even media. Light will be the first problem. Once you have your orchids in their new location, carefully examine the light. It is a good idea to provide less light than you had before, at least initially. Not every leaf on every plant in the old location was exposed to ambient light because some were shaded by other plants.

Place your orchids in their new home, but wait a day or so before watering. Let the wounded roots and leaves heal. Any obvious damaged tissues should be removed and the wound treated with cinnamon powder or hydrogen peroxide.

Once wounds have healed a day, re-hydrate your orchids thoroughly. After another week, reapply a light treatment of your chosen fungicide/antibiotic. Pay careful attention to your orchids for a couple of weeks to be sure no other problems arise.

The first trick is to avoid disease. When orchids are moved roots are damaged, leaves cracked, and blooms broken. Before making any move, do your best to eliminate any scale or rots in your collection.

Have Dinner with the speaker 5:30 PM, before the meeting, at the Neo China Restaurant, 4015 University Drive, Durham , behind Target's at the South Square Mall. Call Alan Miller (919) 969-1612 before 5 PM Monday to make your reservations.

Free Raffle tickets , up to 5 for each Flowering Orchid you bring to the Show Table.

| Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda: | Calendar 2008 | Speaker | Topic |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 7: 7:30 Set Up Show Table and Chairs | June | Steve Frowine | Fragrant Orchids |
| 7:30-7:45 Business Meeting, Announcements | | | |
| 7:45-8:10 Show Table Review | JULY | Mario Blanco | Orchids and their pollinators |
| 8:10-8:30 Refreshment Break | | Univ. of Florida | |
| 8:30-9:20 Program | | | |
| 9:20-9:30 Show Table Awards, Raffle and Door Prizes | August | Max Thompson | Angraecums and other Madagascar species |
| 9:30 P.M. Meeting Ends | | | |

Welcome Table

Refreshments

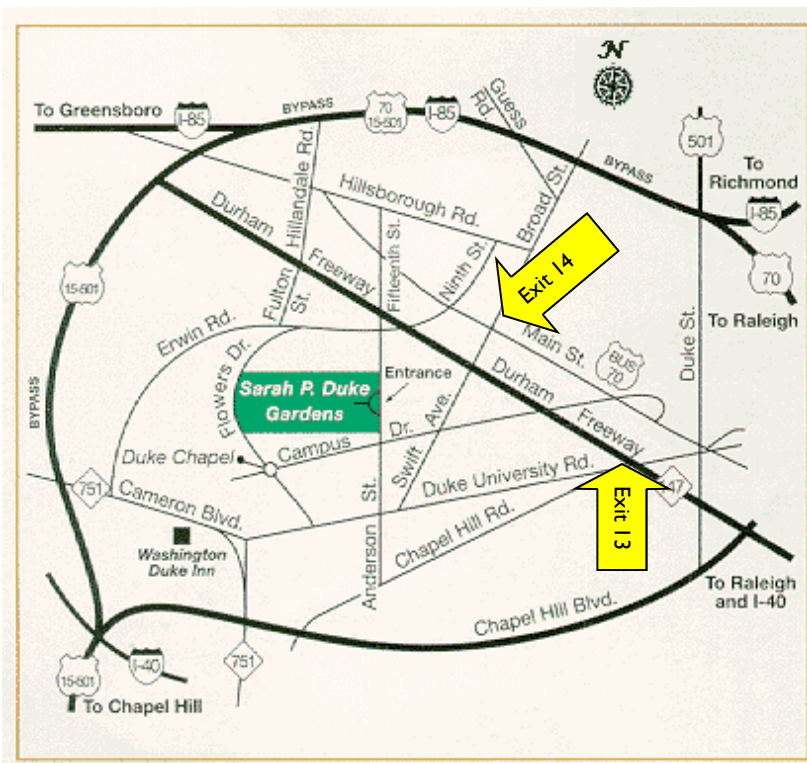
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|-------------|---|-------------------------------|
| June | Judith Goldstein | Anita Hall |
| July | Creighton Humphries Sue Morand | Robin and Josh Gurlitz |



Associated with Sarah P Duke Gardens

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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
Visitors are Welcome!

www.Triangle Orchid
Society.org

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.

Triangle Orchid Society Dues are:

\$18 per year single, or \$24 per year for two persons living at the same address. Mail to: Leo Sagasti, Treasurer
 2306 Damascus Church Rd Chapel Hill NC 27516