



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Speaker for April 12, 2010

Cordelia Head - Good Things Come In Small Packages

Cordelia Head is one of three owners of J&L Orchids. She has been growing orchids for more than 30 years. Cordelia is on many international orchid committees involving orchid conservation and orchid judging. She is an American Orchid Society accredited judge and sits on the AOS Judging Committee.

Cordelia has been fortunate to travel extensively throughout Central and South America in search of orchids. She has discovered many new species and has three named for her. Cordelia has lectured both nationally and internationally including the World Orchid Conferences in Miami, France, Malaysia, Vancouver Glasgow and many others.

Cordelia's lecture is entitled "*Good Things Come in Small Packages*" She will be talking about miniature orchids. Her powerpoint presentation will show an exciting array of beautiful, unusual and colorful plants both suitable for the beginner and experienced growers. Her exciting, stimulating, amusing and knowledgeable presentation will be entertaining as well as informative.

J&L Orchids is offering a 10% discount on **pre-orders*** delivered to the Society meeting. Plants can be ordered from the website www.jlorchids.com using the order form or by email, phone or letter. Pre-payment is not necessary but appreciated. When ordering *please specify which society meeting the plants are to be delivered to*. When using the shopping cart order form, the discount will not show and shipping may come up in the total. Under special instructions indicate which society the plants are to be delivered to and when we process the order we will subtract the discount and not charge the shipping.

Inside this issue:

<i>This Month's Speaker</i>	1
<i>Minutes of the Last Meeting</i>	2
<i>Last Month's Speaker's Transcript</i>	3
<i>Jack Webster Show Table Awards</i>	4-5
<i>Growing Tips by Courtney T. Hackney</i>	6
<i>Orchid Events, Speaker Dates, TOS Meeting Schedule Volunteer Schedule</i>	7
<i>Map and Directions to Sarah P Duke Gardens</i>	8

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 at
(919) 969-1612
before 5 PM Monday
to make your reservations.

**Speaker will
have plants
for sale***

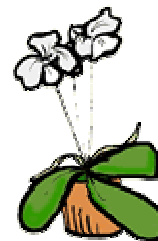
J&L Orchids located at
20 Sherwood Rd, Easton, CT, 06612.

Phone: 203 261 3772

Website:

<http://www.jlorchids.com/index.html>

Email: jlorchid@snet.net



**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**

TOS Officers and Board Members

President

Robin Gurlitz (919) 929-9717
robing@i-gga.com

Vice President

Program Chairman

Alan Miller (919) 969-1612
orchidacea@att.net

Secretary

David Pickett (919) 688-8410
legaldeacon84@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Melissa Bullard (919) 929-6806
mbullard@email.unc.edu

Past President

Philip Warner (919) 785-0151
pwarnar@fminet.com

Board of Trustees:

At Large Trustees: 2010

Bob Davidson (919)-969-7365
bob@cattleya.us

At Large Trustees: 2011

David Devine (919) 828-5332
devinejd@aol.com

At Large Trustees: 2012

Lee Allgood (919) 721-7192
lallgood851@yahoo.com

George Bizub (919) 454-4514
gbizub@nc.rr.com

Jeremy Bueter (336) 301-3798
jjbueter77@yahoo.com

Sally Carpenter (919) 464-5764
scarp919@aol.com

Minutes of the Last Meeting 3/8/2010

The March meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by TOS president, Robin Gurlitz. Guests were welcomed. Review and acceptance of the minutes and financials for the February meeting was postponed until the April meeting as most people had not seen the March newsletter. Volunteers are needed for the Welcome table. See Lee Allgood to sign up. Michael Arner provided refreshments and Olivene Virtue manned the Welcome table. See Paul Feaver to help put up and take down the lights for our Orchid tables.

We were reminded to pay our dues. Checks can be made out to TOS, and handed to Melissa Bullard at the meeting or mailed to her at 510 North Street, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514. A single membership is \$18 and a dual membership is \$24. You will no longer receive the newsletter if you have not paid your 2010 dues as of this meeting and your name will be purged from the membership roll. Please see Melissa Bullard, Treasurer, if you have questions.

Raffle tickets were available for \$1 each. Bring a plant for the Show table and receive a free raffle ticket for up to a maximum of 5 tickets.

Josh and Robin Gurlitz put in and took down a table top exhibit at the Virginia Orchid Society Show held in Richmond February 26th – 28th. It was a spectacular event. Of the 30 plants in the exhibit, 16 received ribbons & the exhibit as a whole received a 2nd Place ribbon. All plants loaned by members were returned safely.

The TOS will work in the Triangle Gardener's booth at the Southern Ideal Home Show in Raleigh, April 9th – 11th. Please see Robin Gurlitz if you can volunteer to help. Parking for volunteers

is free. Also, pick up a copy of the Triangle Gardener to see the ad for our Spring and Fall auctions.

Thanks to Manuel and Kriselie Monserrate, the TOS is now on Facebook! Please see either of them for the link to the page.

Remember our Spring Auction which will be held on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at the Beech Pavilion at Lake Crabtree. We need a chairperson and volunteers.

Thanks to Paul Feaver & Nick Plummer for discussing the beautiful plants on the Show tables. Time prevented every plant from being discussed. (You may bring to the attention of the presenter a question about a specific plant if that plant has not been discussed.) Thanks to Bob Davidson for bringing & passing around a seed pod. The presentation was interesting.

Josh Gurlitz stated that the TOS has the opportunity to obtain a copy of Orchid Wiz to put in either our Spring or Fall auction. It is a \$250 item & is most helpful in categorizing orchids for shows and personal collections. More information will follow.

The Jack Webster Award Plants were: Greenhouse Grown Awards: 1st Place: C. skinnerii 'casa luna': Paul Virtue; 2nd Place: Paph. Malipoense: Jeff Bottoms and John Martin; 3rd Place: Ansellia Africana: Michael Wagner. The Non-Greenhouse Grown Awards: 1st Place: Soph. Arizona: Debbie Bueter; 2nd Place: Paph. spicerianum: Melissa Bullard; 3rd Place: Paph. Lowii 'Princehouse' x sib: Phil Warner.

Robin Gurlitz introduced our speaker, Dr. Tom Nasser, who gave a most animated & informative talk on Bulbophyllums. He also had nice plants for sale. Thanks to George Bizub for hosting Tom. The meeting was adjourned about 9:45 pm. Minutes submitted by David Pickett, Secretary, TOS.



Transcript of Last Month's Speaker

Who would have thought there would be so many foul smelling plants in one family?? Seemed that every slide Tom put up had a Clonal name of 'Carri-on' or something similar to describe the scent. Fortunately, not all Bulbos are afflicted, or nobody would be growing these fascinating plants.

According to Tom, Orchids are the largest plant family in the entire world. Of that enormous plant family, Bulbos are the Genus with the highest representation. Estimates vary, but there are currently 2,000+ known varieties world-wide, with new species being found and described all the time. Due to the many varieties, they are remarkably diverse. If you consider size alone, Bulbos range from tiny miniatures to giant plants that grow to over 7 feet high.

All Bulbos have a fulcrumed or hinged lip that bobs up and down in the breeze, or when the plant is disturbed in anyway. The movement of the lip attracts pollinators, which are primarily flies. And, because flies are attracted to carrion, Bulbos frequently emit a carrion-like odor to attract these pollinators. This is just another example of the adaptive ability of orchids!

Just as there is great diversity in this genus, there is great diversity in how to grow these gems. Tom stated that there are 4 – 5 big names in the orchid business who represent expertise in growing Bulbos. Each of these growers approaches culture differently. Bill Thoms, from the Miami area, puts his plants into baskets of moss and runs water over the baskets daily. Bill has been a speaker at the SOS in the past, and I have heard him tell his audience to water all sides and the bottom of baskets – soak the plant! Another big name Bulbo grower is Bob Fallon of Huntsville, Alabama. He grows his Bulbos on mounts, hanging on a wall. He soaks his plants twice daily. There is also Mrs. Ralph Levy of Memphis, who employs a staff of "orchidists" who waters her plants 2 – 3 times daily.

Tom says he grows his in shallow bulb pans, in moss or seedling bark with a great deal of perlite to improve drainage. He uses rhizome clips to hold the plants in place, and train them in desired directions. He says that plants grown like this do not do well if their roots are exposed so he holds the plant in place with clips and covers the roots with medium. He then exposes

the plants to moderately bright light, "Cattleya light" as he calls it. He fertilizes regularly, but follows each fertilizing with a flushing to remove accumulated salts. He and Shan grow Carp in their fish pond and they often use the fish droppings from their pond as fertilizer. If you have ever used fish emulsion to fertilize plants, you will appreciate how well plants respond! Although it is a weak solution, and smells really, really bad, fish emulsion is probably the most effective natural fertilizer available.

In reviewing my notes on Tom's presentation, the one thing that is consistent for all the growers he references is the fact that they all water heavily - i.e. daily in most cases. The message, for me at least, is that you can grow Bulbos just about any way you want, in pots, in baskets, on mounts, with medium, or with roots exposed. The only thing that is not negotiable is the need for lots and lots of water.

So it seems that Bulbos are very diverse, but also very adaptable. With sufficient water, they can be grown well in just about any environment and in just about any medium. The key, it seems to me, is to experiment. What works for Tom may not work for you. Just as your growing environment will be unique to your situation, your style of watering may be unique to your needs. Remember that what is considered 'heavy' watering by one grower may be a mere sprinkle to another. Additionally, the quality of your water may impact you plants. Tom's lake water may produce very different results than water you may have from your personal well, or from your city water supply. The key is to inspect the plants regularly and pay close attention to the little clues that they supply. And if whatever you are doing doesn't seem to be working, try something new. With patience and close attention to detail these truly unique plants can be grown to specimen size that can reward the grower with spectacular floral displays several times a year.

If you are interested in learning more about these wonderful plants, Bill Thoms has just published a new book on Bulbos. I have not seen it yet, but I've read several reviews that claim that it is easy to read, and hysterically funny. Might be fun to check it out!

Transcript by Joy Lemieux, Sandhills Orchid Society

Jack Webster Awards
Non Greenhouse
Grown



1st Place Ribbon:
Soph. Arizona'
grown by Debbie Beuter

2nd Place Ribbon:
Paph. spicerianum
grown by Melissa Bullard

Anyone who feels qualified and is interested in teaming up to do the plant table for the monthly meeting, please get in touch with Bob Davidson, at bob@cattleya.us

3rd Place Ribbon:
Paph. Lowii 'Princehouse' x sib
grown by Phil Warner





1st Place Ribbon:
C. skinnerii 'casa luna'
grown by Paul Virtue

Jack Webster Awards Greenhouse Grown

2nd Place Ribbon:
Paph. malipoense
grown by Jeff Bottoms
& John Martin



3rd Place Ribbon:
Ansellia africana
grown by Michael Wagner

Growing Tips for April

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

This month is one of the busiest for orchid growers. Much of our success the next year depends on what we do in the next month or so. The temperature now is almost the ideal range for many different types of orchids and the increasing day length is telling your orchids it is time to grow.

Most commercial growers know that it is a waste of money fertilizing until orchids begin to grow and this is largely temperature dependent. Now is the time to apply Nutricote, a slow release fertilizer. It is released once the temperature reaches about 60 F. Pay attention to the formula that you are using and the length of time fertilizer will be delivered. Most of the Nutricote formulas sold under the trademark "Dynamite" are designed to provide fertilizer for 6 months. There are three formulas generally available. One is a balance formula, 13-13-13 with minor elements. It comes in a red plastic container. This is ideal for cattleyas, cymbidiums, and most other slow growing epiphytes. If you use rainwater or R/O water there is a 9-month, Cal-Mag formulation (15-5-9) that provides extra calcium and magnesium. Phalaenopsis and other fast growing orchids seem to like more nitrogen this time of year, like the 18-6-8 that comes in a green plastic container.

The real beauty of these slow-release fertilizers is that they need be applied just once every 6--9 months. The only problem comes if your orchids are potted in a very coarse medium. In this case, the small grey pellets of Nutricote can go right through the pot or accumulate in the bottom of the pot and not be available to the orchid plant itself.

Some hobbyists put Nutricote in little bags of cheesecloth or even embed it in clumps of sphagnum fibers that they place on top of the medium; anything

to keep it from slipping through the medium. If you grow vandas and ascocendas in open baskets, Nutricote can be placed in small mesh bags and wired to the main stem just below the first leaves. Each time you water, small amounts leak from the bag and coat the roots below where they can be absorbed.

Many commercial growers dissolve fertilizer in their water every time they water during the growing season. This is ideal if it is applied in a dilute form, but is also useful if you have just repotted an orchid. Newly repotted orchids are "hungry", but wait until the newly repotted orchid initiates new growth or new roots before using dilute fertilizer. This allows damaged roots to heal before they become damp. Damaged roots, moisture and fertilizer are a recipe for bacterial infection.

Most orchid hobbyists think that ideal conditions for orchids occur in the middle of summer. That is also the ideal time for fungal and bacterial growth and it is best to complete your repotting before the intense heat arrives. This allows your newly repotted orchid to grow new roots that can supply the plant with water when the plant is losing lots of water from its leaves.

Many hobbyists that have kept their orchids in windows all winter are ready to move them outside. If you have done this before you know where they grow best. Be sure the winter has not reduced shading or that the trees providing shade have leafed out. Invariably, orchids housed inside all winter are burned by their first exposure to direct sunlight, even though these might have been the same conditions they experienced last fall. A little temporary shade may be needed.



Announcements & Upcoming Orchid Events

The Triangle Orchid Society will participate in the following events:

April 9-11th: Southern Ideal Home Show at the NC State Fair Grounds. We will join the Triangle Gardener in their booth. Come visit us at the show!

May 1st: Spring Orchid Auction will be held that Saturday at the Beech Pavilion, Lake Crabtree County Park, Morrisville, NC. A Potluck meal will be held at Noon, followed by the auction at 1 PM. More volunteers are needed. Please contact Robin Gurlitz at (919) 929-9717 or email: robing@i-gga.com.

April 22: Norfolk Garden Tour, "Along the Working River", Thursday 10 AM – 5pm, includes the Kaplan Orchid Conservatory at Old Dominion University. Please contact Catherine Dorsey at (757) 451-2882, catherinedorsey@aol.com. Ticket are available online at www.VaGardenWeek.org.

April 23-25: Deep South Orchid Society Show, Savannah Mall, 14045 Abercorn St., Savannah, GA. Contact: Patricia Bucky, 216 E. 58th St., Savannah, GA 31405; (912) 844-2979; patsybucky@aol.com.

Also: www.aos.org, click on "Events" & then "Show Schedules"

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:

7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Table and Chairs
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting Announcements
7:40-8:30	Program
8:30-8:50	Refreshment Break
8:50-9:20	Show Table Review, Show Table Awards
9:20-9:30	Raffle
9:30 P.M.	Meeting Ends Put Away Chairs And Show Table

Calendar 2010

April 12th

Speaker

Cordelia Head

Plants for Sale

Topic

Good things come in small packages

May 10th

Harold Hills

Fragrance of Orchids

June 14th

Martin Motes
Plants for Sale

Intergenerics of Vandas & Ascocendas

Welcome Table

Refreshments

April

Lee Allgood

Andrea & Bill Erwin

May

Need Volunteers

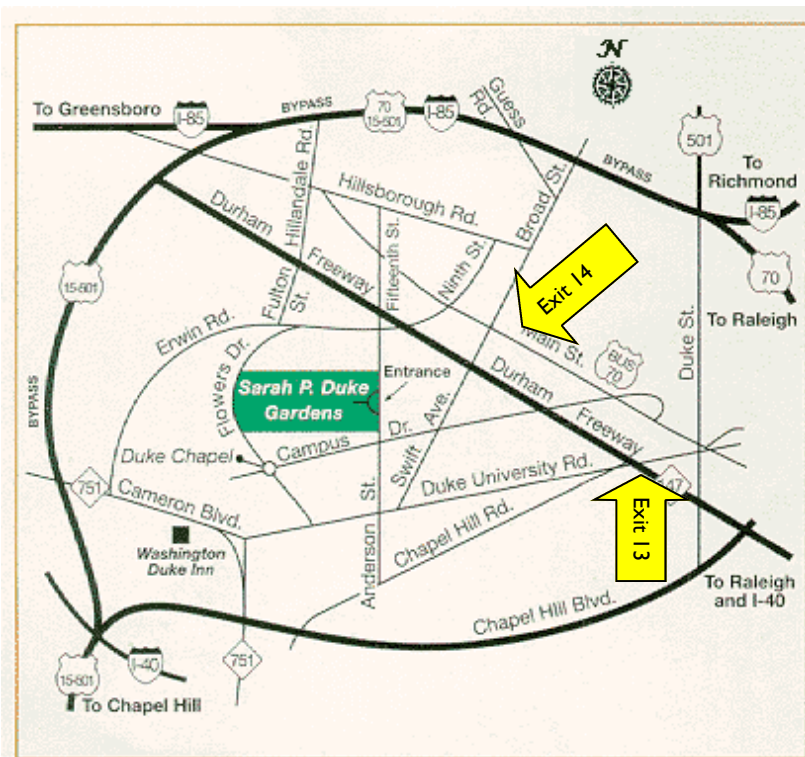
Lee Allgood



Associated with Sarah P Duke Gardens

Newsletter Editor
Heather Schneider
610 Royal Tower Way
Cary, NC 27513

Phone: (919) 465-1984
E-mail: LIFLNC@yahoo.com



**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.TriangleOrchidSociety.org

From the East. **Exit 13 on the Durham Freeway(#147)**
Head South on Chapel Hill Rd. Turn right on Anderson St.
The Gardens are on the left.
From the West. **Exit 14 on the Durham Freeway (147)**
Head South on Swift Ave. Turn right on Campus Drive ,
Turn right on Anderson St. The Gardens are on the left.

Triangle Orchid Society Dues are:

\$18 per year single, or \$24 per year for two persons living at the same address.

Mail to: Melissa Bullard, Treasurer 510 North Street Chapel Hill, NC 27514