



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Speaker for August 9, 2010 Linda Wilhelm Topic: The Real Miltonias

Linda Wilhelm started growing orchids in 1980 after a vacation in Florida with her mother. Intrigued by orchids, she bought a small *Cattleya* seedling, not knowing at the time that it would take seven or eight years to get a bloom. It was the beginning of an addiction. After meeting Rolf in 1985, the addiction became severe when he, too, got involved with orchids.

When the hobby got out of hand and developed into a serious passion for both Linda and Rolf, they started their business, Woodland Orchids. They specialize in breeding warm tolerant *Oncidiinae* (several of their new hybrids have received awards from the AOS), compact *Cattleyas* and also line breed a number of different species. *Stanhopeas* are the newest passion.

An Accredited Judge, Linda is very active in the judging program, having served in various positions with the Carolinas Judging Center including the job of the Training Coordinator and 5 years as the Chair of the Center. She is currently on her second term as a Trustee for the American Orchid Society. She enjoys being involved in shows outside her region, including offshore shows in the islands. "It offers such an opportunity to see a different variety of orchids as well as an opportunity to extend my group of friends". She is a frequent guest speaker at orchid societies all over the eastern portion of the USA. "I would love to have the opportunity in the future to travel and speak to the societies in the western half of the United States and I'm really looking forward to this November when I will be traveling to Brazil to speak and judge a show."

Linda may be contacted at: Address: 1816 Hart Road, Charlotte, NC 28214,

Email: orchidfrau@bellsouth.net,

Website: www.woodlandorchids.com

Dinner with the Speaker

5:30 PM - before the meeting
at Neo China Restaurant
4015 University Drive,
Durham behind Target
at the South Square Mall.

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

Linda Wilhelm is bringing orchids



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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 Meeting 7/12/2010

The July meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by the president of the TOS, Robin Gurlitz. The approximately forty-five people who included two guests were welcomed. Jeremy and Debbie Bueter were thanked for the refreshments which included Debbie's secret family recipe of homemade goodies. Lee Allgood was thanked for hosting the welcome table and Olivene Virtue for selling raffle tickets. Judith Goldstein was thanked for hosting tonight's speaker. Long time webmaster Michael Wagner was thanked for his years of volunteering as the TOS Webmaster. Congratulations were extended to George Bizub for his new job and thanks for hosting speakers until May of this year. Thank you goes to Heather Schneider for her service of several years as editor of the newsletter. The June minutes, with changes, and financials were accepted and approved. The June minutes were corrected to read that the Cymbidiums we received last month were a donation from Whole Foods Market in Chapel Hill. Thanks go to the Chapel Hill Whole Foods Market.. 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. Starting in August, if you **purchase** 5 raffle tickets, you will receive a 6th one for free.

Alan Miller announced that Linda Wilhelm of Woodland Orchids will be our August speaker and would also give a Growers Day presentation. Other speakers for Grower's Day will include Bob Davidson, Linda Thorne owner of Seagrove Orchids and Paul Virtue. For more information or directions, see the notice in this Newsletter and please visit our website.

(www.triangleorchidsociety.org).

The President introduced our speaker, Robert Marsh whose presentation was on "Barkerias: Stepsisters to

Cattleyas?"

Nick Plummer did an excellent job of 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.)

The Jack Webster Award Plants were:

Greenhouse Grown Awards:

1st Place: Vanda Roberts Delight 'Crown Fox Big Red' FCC/AOS – Paul & Olivene Virtue; 2nd Place: Den. purpureum x petiolatum – Paul Feaver; 3rd Place: Encyclia alata – Michael Wagner.

Non-Greenhouse Grown Awards:

1st Place: Calanthe cf. triplicata – Caroline Bernard; 2nd Place: Epi. Green Hornet (cochleatum x lancifolium) – Nancy Harvey; 3rd Place: Neofinetia falcata – Judi Powell.

The meeting adjourned around 9:30 pm. Minutes submitted by David Pickett,

Treasurers Report Melissa Bullard

June/July 2010

INCOME

Membership dues.....\$18.00

Plant Raffle.....\$34.00

TOTAL INCOME.....\$52.00

EXPENSES

Refreshments.....\$86.85

Raffle Plants.....\$20.00

Speaker Expense.....\$139.14

Greenhouse Rent.....\$240.00

Venue Rent.....\$450.00

TOTAL EXPENSES.....\$935.99

NET INCOME (LOSS)..... (\$883.99)



Robert Marsh

After hearing Dr. Marsh's presentation I decided to do some research of my own regarding *Barkerias*. I went to the Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia (just type that into your search bar) and found some of the most fantastic photos imaginable. These are truly beautiful small plants! Now I'm excited to see what happens with the three little seedlings I purchased.

According to Dr. Marsh, the genus *Barkeria*, step sister to the *Cattleyas*, is comprised of only sixteen species. They are uniquely recognizable as *Barkerias* because their lateral sepals are held level with or above the dorsal sepal. *Barkerias* are all from Mexico (most from the Pacific coast area), all are deciduous, and all are warm growers. All are subject to a winter dry period, grow in fully exposed locations and flowering in winter on leafless spikes. They require heavy watering during their summer growth period, but only light misting during the winter. They like to be outdoors during the summer, then in Oct. begin to drop their leaves and go into dormancy for approximately three to four months. Watering should be with reduced or even withheld once we have cooler nights. Typically new growth resumes in May, when heavy watering needs to be resumed.

These are small, even miniature plants that typically grow on tree limbs. In the wild, they are only attached by 1 or 2 roots so are frequently blown off or fall off the tree during storms. In the wild they are typically very small plants. However, with the security of cultivation indoors, where they are not buffeted by winds or sudden storms, they rapidly grow into specimen plants. Their pseudobulbs are elongated and cane-like. The inflorescences are elongations of the cane and can carry up to 150 blooms. Because the plant re-blooms on the same inflorescence, don't make the mistake of cutting it off after the blooms have dropped. In some species the inflorescence becomes longer and longer each year as the plant matures.

Dr. Marsh has chosen to work with *Barkerias* because of their unique flower forms and color. He loves the fact that they produce so many flowers and are so long lasting. The plants stay compact (Yeah! More plants in small spaces!). Plus they are drought, heat and cold tolerant. They can tolerate lows to 40 degrees, and highs up to 100. With their drought tolerance, they sound to me like a plant that needs minimal care. Dr. Marsh says that they mature very quickly, and that one or other of the 16 species is always in bloom.

Dr. Marsh uses a 20-20-20 fertilizer on his plants. He says that they are very sensitive to harsh chemicals so he only uses Neem Oil when spraying for mites or scale. Most pest infestations, he believes, are transmitted from other near by plants, and that when *Barkerias* are grown alone they rarely become infected. He likes to take seedlings and liquid nail them to cork slabs. Grown like this their roots elongate like vandas, giving a very interesting presentation.

Now, if I can just keep these seedlings alive

**Jack Webster Awards
Greenhouse
Grown**



1st Place Ribbon:
Vanda Roberts Delight
Crown Fox Big Red
**Grown by Paul & Olivene
Virtue**

2nd Place Ribbon:
Den. purpurium x petiolatum
Grown by Paul Feaver

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:
Encyclia alata
Grown by Michael Wagner





1st Place Ribbon:
Calanthe cf triplicata
Grown by Caroline Bernard

2nd Place Ribbon:
Epi Green Hornet
Grown by Nancy Harvey



3^d Place Ribbon:
Neofinitia falcata
Grown by Judi Powell

**Jack Webster
Awards
Non-Greenhouse
Grown**

Growing Tips for July

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

Repotting should be done by now, but keep an eye on those oddball species that like to grow roots as they flower. Many bifoliate cattleyas need to be repotted just as they come into flower. Some like *C. bicolor* with 3 foot pseudobulbs are particularly frustrating since buds emerge about the same time as new roots. It is not unusual to see this same characteristic in their offspring.

Insects are cold-blooded, which means they grow faster when greenhouse temperatures are warm. This is true for both scale insects and mobile pests such as roaches. Roaches, mealybugs, and other mobile animals that live in pots can reduce all your carefully protected root tips to little white nubs. Unfortunately, this mostly happens at night so there is always some uncertainty as to the identity of the offending culprit. If you are a night owl, a quiet visit with your flashlight to your growing area at night may get you a quick view of the culprit. If you are having this problem, mix up a 5 gallon bucket of liquid Sevin, 1 teaspoon per gallon and dip the entire orchid pot for a minute or two and see what comes out. Roaches will make themselves known, but many smaller animals such as snails & slugs will just die in the pot. Either way, problem solved. For hobbyists who place their orchids outdoors in summer and bring them inside in winter, remember this treatment to avoid importing pests.

There are a few orchids in my collection that should love the heat of summer, but *Angraecum* hybrids and species often develop rots in their new leaves as they emerge. Keep a bottle of household hydrogen peroxide in the growing area. After you water, put a few drops in the crown of *angraecums* or any other monopodial orchid (phals, vandas, etc) that grow on a vertical stem and the rot problem will disappear.

Summer is a time of both heat and humidity. If you are growing outdoors don't for-

get last month's watering advice. Always keep in mind that cool weather will require a reduction in watering frequency. There is always the possibility here in the Southeast of a tropical system lasting for days. Tropical systems import fungal and bacterial spores. The heat and humidity that accompany these storms encourage their growth. These disease-causing organisms are always around and there is nothing that can be done.

If you grow outside and your orchids are naturally watered by the rain, it may be necessary to provide some shelter if several days of tropical rain is expected. In my greenhouse, I also spray down all surfaces under benches, on walls, etc with a strong anti-biotic. Copper Sulfate (Kocide) works well as can a solution of Clorox. However, these products can damage orchids if they get on leaves. If orchids are wet there is less danger or a less toxic product can also be used.

Kocide, used in a more dilute form is safe to use on some orchids, but only if the water you mix it with is on the basic side of the pH scale, i.e. above 7. Even then, there can be damage on tender new phal leaves as well as to other sensitive orchids. There are other products such as Phyton 27, approved for direct application to orchids. It is easier to prevent infections than cure them.

Once the tropical system has passed it is wise to treat your orchids with some type of anti-fungal or anti-bacterial agent. Some hobbyists that have small collections use the same hydrogen peroxide noted above, place it in a spray bottle and spray their plants. Remember to keep air moving around your orchids. Once the rain stops and humidity drops it is also a good idea to let your orchids dry thoroughly.

August Growers Day Information

Learn How To Grow Orchids



Growers Day

Raulston Arboretum
Raleigh

Saturday August 7th, 2010

10.00 AM to 4.15 PM

Registration starts at 9.30 AM

Open to the public
Everybody is welcome!
Pre registration Required

On Saturday, August 7th the Triangle Orchid Society will be hosting its annual Growers Day event at Raulston Arboretum from 10.00 am to 4.15 pm.

Registration \$25.00

Registration is due by August 2nd . To register for Grower's Day please contact :
Robin Gurlitz 919-929-9717 or robing@i-gga.com
Checks should be made payable to the Triangle Orchid Society and should be sent to: Robin Gurlitz, 208 Spring Lane, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Registration includes morning and afternoon lectures, lunch, a souvenir orchid, and membership in the Triangle Orchid Society for the remainder of the year

For more information and directions please go to :

www.triangleorchidsociety.org

Growers Day Program

- 9:30 Registration
- 10:00 Introduction
- 10:10 Paul Virtue: What is an orchids and how to buy them
- 11:00 Break
- 11:10 Linda Thorne, Sea-grove Orchids: Cattleyas
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:30 Linda Wilhelm
Growing Orchids on window sill and under lights
- 2:30 Bob Davidson
Orchid Care
- 3:45 Distribut Orchids

**Call Robin Gurlitz
to register between
Aug. 2nd to Aug 4th**

September Orchid Auction

Get ready for our fall Auction.

**Hundreds of beautiful orchids at auction
prices...plus bring your favorite dish to
pot-luck lunch.**

Date: September 26, 2010, Sunday

**Where: Crabtree County Park,
Morrisville,NC**

When: Potluck Lunch at Noon

Auction starts at 1:00 PM



Associated with
Sarah P Duke
Gardens

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:

7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Tables & Chairs
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting Announcements
7:40-8:30	Program
8:30-8:50	Refreshments
8:50-9:20	Show Table Show Table Awards
9:20-9:30	Raffle
9:30 P.M.	Adjourn

Calendar 2010

Calendar 2010	Speaker	Topic
August 9th	Linda Wilhelm	The real Miltonias
September 13th	Walter Off	Classic Cattleyas reinvented
October 11th	Alan Koch	Gold Country Orchids, Lincoln, CA

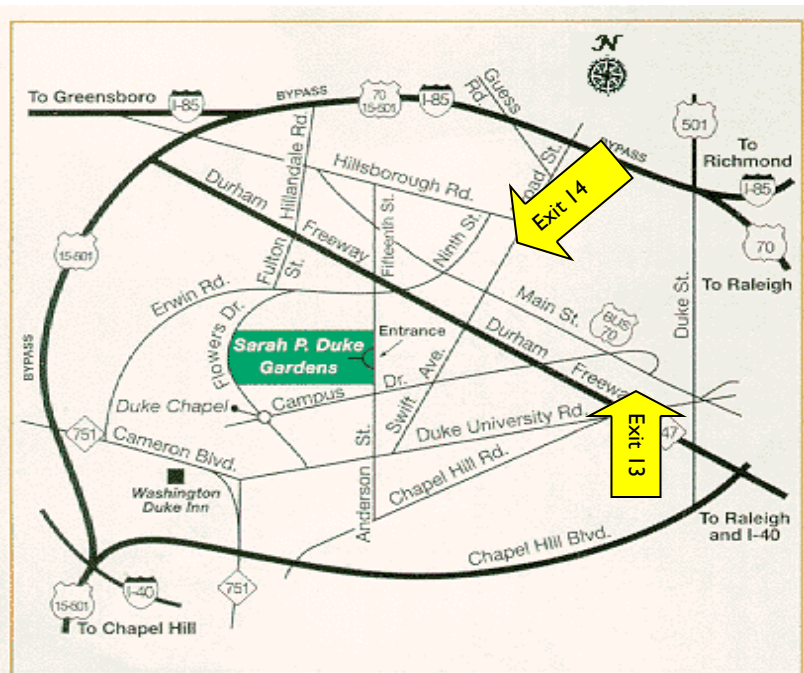
Interim Newsletter Editor
Robin Gurlitz

Phone: (919) 929-9717
E-mail: robing@i-gga.com

Welcome Table

Refreshments

August	Lee Allgood	Wanda Wilkins
Sept.	Lee Allgood	Michael Arner



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**