



Orchidacea

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

Speaker for June 14, 2010– Martin Motes

Martin Motes is a second generation orchidist who has been growing orchids for over 50 years. He is president of Motes Orchids, a major producer of vandas. He has bred hundreds of new hybrids, for which he has received scores of American Orchid Society awards including three FCCs and three Awards of Quality. His hybrids received Gold, Silver and Bronze medals at the 18th World Orchid conference in Dijon, March 2005. One hybrid garnered the trophy as A Best Vanda in Show. Other hybrids have won medals in previous WOCs as well as at the European Orchid Conference. Additionally numerous of his hybrids have been recognized by the Royal Horticultural Society and in other international judging venues. He is an accredited American Orchid Society judge.

Martins frequent articles have appeared in *The Fairchild Garden Bulletin*, *The South Florida Orchidist*, *The Orchid Digest*, *The Orchid Review* and *The American Orchid Society Bulletin*. He is the author of *Vandas: Their History Botany and Culture*, *Florida Orchid Growing: Month by Month* and *Florida Vanda Growing: Month by Month*. He is working on a monograph of the genus *Vanda* with Dr. David Roberts.

A native Floridian, Martin has lived most of his life in Miami, Florida, but also spent 6 years in Ohio and 2 years in Yugoslavia as a Senior Fulbright lecturer at the University of Kosova. He has traveled extensively in the Mediterranean and has observed wild orchids in Australia, the Bahamas, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Britain, the Cayman Islands, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Florida, Guatemala, Ireland, Jamaica, Malaya, Mexico, Nepal, Panama, Peru, Puerto Rico, Thailand, Venezuela, the Virgin Islands and Yugoslavia.

Martin has twice taught *Vanda* Production at the University of Florida Orchid Short Course in Gainesville. He has worked as a consultant in various capacities to the extensive orchid industry in South Florida. He teaches classes at Fairchild Tropical Gardens which in addition to Orchids include Growing Asiatic Vegetables, and Great Tasting Tomatoes for South Florida.

More than 20 lectures a year fills Martins busy schedule. In the past this has included national orchid conferences in the US, Britain, Thailand, Nepal and Australia. He was a featured speaker at the World Orchid Conferences in Rio, Dijon and Kuala Lumpur, where he chaired the Hybridizers Forum and was a panel member at the Commercial Growers Forum. He publishes a monthly news letter *A This Month in Your Orchid Collection* geared to the special needs of orchid growers in South Florida and other tropical regions.

To get away from the orchid greenhouse, Martin reads and occasionally, writes poetry, tends his vegetable garden, and fishes.

Martin is married to Mary Motes author of the best selling comic novel, *Orchid Territory*, an hilarious view of the wacky world of orchids in South Florida.

Speaker will have plants and books for sale

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 before 5:00 PM at (919)969-1612 to make your reservations

Inside this issue:

This Month's Speaker	1
Minutes of the Last Meeting,	2
Growing Tips from Courtney Hackney	3
Jack Webster Show Table Awards Non-Greenhouse Grown	4
Jack Webster Show Table Awards Greenhouse Grown	5
Announcements and Calendar	6
Map and Directions to Sarah P. Duke Gardens	7

**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 5/10/2010

The May meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the president of the TOS, Robin Gurlitz. Guests were welcomed and an especially warm welcome was extended to long-time member Mabel Hicks who recently lost her husband, Jim, who was also a long-time member. Also a warm welcome went to the youngest guests at the meeting Michael and Jeanne Wagner's granddaughters. A "thank you" was extended to both Lee Allgood for providing refreshments and Nancy Harvey who manned the welcome table. Paul Feaver and Nick Plummer were thanked in advance for presenting the show table. The minutes and financials for April will be voted on at the next meeting. Volunteers are needed for the Welcome table. See Lee Allgood to sign up. See Paul Feaver to help put up and take down the lights for our Orchid tables. We are continuing with the new format presented at the last meeting.

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.

The Spring Auction was a fine success. We grossed over \$3,000 and netted over \$2,000 after expenses. There were 31 bidders. Thanks to David Pickett for ordering orchids and to Rick Cavallaro, Mack & Mildred Howell, Judith Shapiro, Tom Wentworth, John Stanton, and, Paul Feaver for donating orchids plants. Michael Joehrendt, Rick Cavallaro, Phil Warner and Nick Plummer for being a dynamic team of auctioneers. Sally Carpenter and Josh Gurlitz for

recording bids. Jeremy Bueter handled advertising. Melissa Bullard for setting up the refreshment table and acting as a runner and John Myhre for signing in attendees. Orchids were transported to the auction by Judith Goldstein and Leo & Miriam Sagasti.

The President introduced our speaker, Dr. Harold (Hal) Hills of Shrewsbury, MA. His presentation was on the fragrance of orchids. Thanks to George Bizub for hosting the speaker.

There were many wonderful and interesting orchids for sale by members of our society. Everyone seemed to have fun perusing and buying orchids. Some members donated a few of their orchids for our raffle. We have some great growers in our ranks. Thank you.

Paul Feaver and 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: Neofinetia falcata 'Akabana' –Armando Neves; 2nd Place: Den. Hawaiian King 'Giant' – Mack & Mildred Howell; 3rd Place: Broughtonia Sanguinea – Paul & Olivene Virtue. The Non-Greenhouse Grown Awards: 1st Place: Phrag. Lindley-anum x Grande 4N 'Gigantea' – Marie Crock; 2nd Place ties: Paph. Makuli Green x sibling – Marie Crock and C. intermedia – Sue Moran.

The meeting was adjourned about 9:30 pm. Minutes submitted by David Pickett, Secretary, TOS.

Growing Tips for June

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

How do I get my orchid to grow roots? This is one of the most asked questions because so many new orchid growers start with a gift of a pot plant that, unfortunately, stays too long in the medium. But even those of us who have grown orchids for many years can find individual clones or times when an orchid plant just will not grow roots.

When the weather is warm most orchids will readily grow roots. There may be a few exceptions to the rule, but even those will at least grow a few new roots this time of year.

In nature, most orchids grow new roots when the growth of new leaves begins. For orchids with rhizomes, this usually happens when a new growth is maturing. For orchids that grow from a central stem, e.g. phalaenopsis and vandas, new roots are associated with the onset of the rainy season or warm weather. Thus, your orchids should be getting new roots right now.

There are some things that can prevent an orchid from growing roots, including insects and disease. If you have an orchid that will not grow new roots, especially if it was just repotted, then some action may be necessary to stimulate new root growth and save the orchid plant. An orchid without roots will eventually die.

The first question to ask is whether the problem orchid is a species. If that is the case, then a quick check with an appropriate book will tell you if there are special issues with respect to new roots for that spe-

cies. Many of the large bifoliate cattleyas, e.g. *C. leopoldii* and *C. bicolor* have specific times when they grow roots. These should be repotted only when they are about to get new roots.

If your orchid is not a species or a species with no specific rooting issues then a check of the plant is necessary. Are there currently live roots on the orchid? Are the leaves wilted or shriveled? If there are many live roots, but leaves are shriveled then look for insect pests. Scale insects, mites, and mealy bugs can all suck enough liquid from a plant that has good roots to cause desiccation of leaves. You may need to take the orchid from the pot, look under leaves and even check the living roots. Don't be hesitant to use a magnifying glass because some of these "beasts" are tiny. If you just find one it is a good bet there are more and this is the problem.

A fine jet of water can be used to remove scale from the leaves, under roots and even between leaves. My preference is to follow this procedure several times from different angles to be sure all are removed. It only takes one to generate a whole new colony.

If most of the roots are dead then the issue is likely either disease or decaying medium. Using the same fine water jet, wash the entire plant thoroughly and let it dry. If there are soft spots on the rhizome or stem apply 2% Hydrogen Peroxide,

the stuff you have in your medicine cabinet. After 15 minutes, soak the entire plant, not just the roots, in the recommended concentration of "Root Tone" or similar hormonal stimulant. Some orchid books maintain that orchids do not respond to such treatment, but they will. Soak for 15 minutes and then let dry.

Next keep your orchid in a shady location. For me they go under a bench. Some growers that have humidity issues will remove all dead tissues and place the plant in a clear plastic bag under the bench until new roots appear. It is necessary to be sure no water accumulates in the bag. Once new roots appear repot, but keep the orchid under lower light until there are enough roots to anchor the plant in the pot. Then it can be slowly moved into its normal light regimen.

Getting vandas to grow roots can also be an issue. Members of the vanda group will occasionally become very leggy and refuse to grow roots on the stem, resulting in large plants with the leaves at the top, roots at the bottom and a long stem in between. Find a long plastic window box that will hold the root mass and as much of the stem as possible and soak in "Root Tone" for 30 minutes. Place back in its normal location and wait. Typically, new roots will emerge from what looked like a dead stem. After these roots get 2-3 inches long you can cut just below these new roots and repot the top portion. Within a few weeks the lower part of the stem will sprout new leaves and you now have two plants.

**Jack Webster Awards
Non Greenhouse Grown**



1st Place - Phrag lindleyanum
x Grande 4N "Gigantea"
grown by Marie Crock

2nd Place tie – C. intermedia
grown by Sue Morand,



2nd Place tie – Paph
Makuli Green x Sibling
grown by Marie Crocl



**Jack Webster Awards
Greenhouse Grown**

1st Place – *Neofinetia fal-*
cate Akabana by Armando
Neves



2nd Place – *Den Hawaiian*
King 'Giant' by Mildred &
Mack Howell



and 3rd Place – *Broughtonia Sanguinea* by Olivene & Paul
Virtue

2010 Growers Day will be August 7 at J.C. Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh. Information will be posted on the TOS website, but hold the day for this informative event.

Fall Auction will be Sunday, September 26th, at Lake Crabtree County Park in Morrisville. Save the date for this great opportunity. Also, if you would like to help & or learn how put on one of our notable auctions let Sally Carpenter, Chair, know now. Volunteers are always appreciated at our auctions!

**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 Adjourns
Put Away Chairs
and Show Table

Calendar 2010	Speaker	Topic
June 14th	Martin Motes PLANTS FOR SALE	Intergenerics of Vandas & Ascocendas
July 12th	Robert Marsh PLANTS FOR SALE	Barkeria Species & Hybrids
August 9th	Kurt Studier Mountain View Or- chids PLANTS FOR SALE	Paphiopedilums

Welcome Table

Refreshments

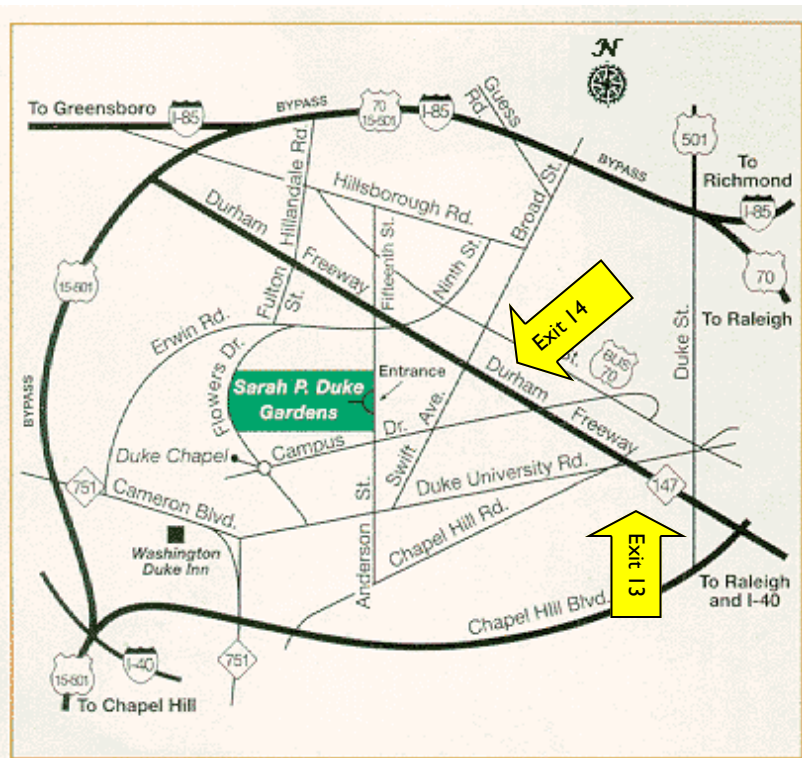
June 14th	Josh Gurlitz	Sally Carpenter
July 12th	Lee Allgood	



**Associated with
Sarah P Duke Gardens**

Robin Gurlitz
Interim Editor

Phone (919) 929-7595



**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**

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 Ander-
son 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: Melissa Bullard, Treasurer 510 North Street Chapel Hill NC 27514