



# Orchidaceae

Newsletter of the  
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with  
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

## Speaker for May 10, 2010 Harold Hills - Fragrance of Orchids

Dr. Harold G. Hills, better known as Hal Hills, received his PhD from the University of Miami in 1969 as a student of Calaway H. Dodson. Robert Dressler was a member of his PhD committee.

Hal has been working on a revision of Dressleria (Catasetinae) for many years. Frequently, when he is close to publishing a revision, a new species turns up, prompting additional revisions to his work. Additional species are waiting to be published, once herbarium material is available.

His PhD work was on fragrance of what was a broadly defined genus Catasetum. Catasetum has been split into three genera, Catasetum, Clowesia, and Dressleria. Hal's work on Dressleria has resulted in eight new species many as a result of his fragrance work on the Genus.

His presentation will give a better understanding of the complexity of orchid fragrances and how those fragrances can be manipulated.

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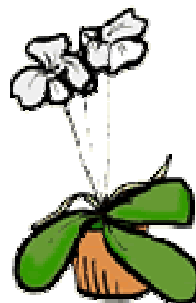
### Dinner with the Speaker

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.

## Member Plant Sale



**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

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## Minutes of the Last Meeting 4/12/2010

The April meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the president of the TOS, Robin Gurlitz. Approximately 53 people were in attendance. Guests were welcomed and a special "welcome and thank you" was extended to new and returning members. The minutes and financials for February and March were accepted and approved. Volunteers are needed for the Welcome table. See Lee Allgood to sign up. Andrea and Bill Erwin provided refreshments and Lee Allgood and Caroline Bernard 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, Treasurer 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.

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.

Caroline Bernard stated that the N.C. Museum of Natural History in Raleigh welcomes donated plants for their exhibits. See Caroline for more information.

The President announced that we are trying a new format for membership meetings. The speaker will conclude the first half of the program so that attendees can have more time to look at the speaker's orchids after having heard their talk, thus enabling people

to make even better informed decisions regarding their purchases.

Remember our Spring Auction which will be held on Saturday, May 1, 2010 at the Beech Pavilion at Lake Crabtree County Park in Morrisville, N.C. The pot-luck lunch starts at noon and the auction begins at 1:00 p.m. Please bring friends and family. A good time will be had by one and all. Donated plants can be dropped off at the Orchid Trail, but please, check your plants over for bugs and diseases first.

Thanks to Paul Feaver and 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.)

The Jack Webster Award Plants were: Greenhouse Grown Awards:

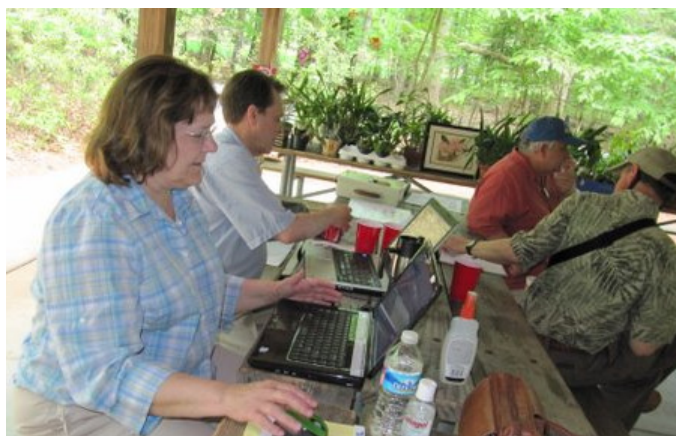
1<sup>st</sup> Place: C. mossiae: Olivene Virtue;  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Encyclia bractescens: Nick Plummer; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Maxilaria tenuifolia: Lee Allgood.

The Non-Greenhouse Grown Awards:  
 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Lyc. Koolena 'Frosted Rose': Mildred Howell; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Paph. Bel Royal: Phil Warner; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Phal. DeeDee: Heather Schneider.

Robin Gurlitz introduced our speaker, Cordelia Head of J&L Orchids in Easton, Ct., who gave a most informative talk entitled "Good Things Come in Small Packages". She also had nice plants for sale. Thanks to George Bizub for hosting Ms. Head.

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

## TOS Spring Auction May 2010



The TOS Spring Auction was held at Lake Crabtree Park in Morrisville on May 1, 2010. About 40 people attended and were regaled by auctioneers Nick, Rick, Michael and Phil. We all had a great time and bid over \$3,000 for the TOS. Rick Cavallaro, Tom Wentworth, Paul Feaver, John Stanton, Mildred & Mack Howell and Judith Shapiro all donated good healthy plants that were accompanied by plants David Pickett ordered from H&R and Kalapana. The plant stock was very attractive and the bids got competitive for many of the orchids. You'll want to keep you calendar open for the Fall Auction on Sunday, September 26th, 2010! Stay tuned for information about a fall auction you won't want to miss!



**Jack Webster Awards  
Non Greenhouse  
Grown**



**1<sup>st</sup> Place Ribbon:**  
Lyc. Koolena 'Frosted Rose'  
grown by Mildred Howell

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Ribbon:**  
Paph. Bel Royal  
grown by Phil Warner

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](mailto:bob@cattleya.us)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Ribbon:**  
Paph. DeeDee  
grown by Heather Schneider





**1<sup>st</sup> Place Ribbon:**  
*C. mossiae*  
grown by Olivene Virtue

**Jack Webster  
Awards  
Greenhouse  
Grown**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place Ribbon:**  
*Encyclia bractescens*  
grown by Nick Plummer



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place Ribbon:**  
*Maxilaria tenuifolia*  
grown by Lee Allgood



## Growing Tips for May

By Courtney T. Hackney EMAIL at [Hackneau@comcast.net](mailto:Hackneau@comcast.net)

If emails and casual conversations are any indication, repotting is traumatic for many orchid hobbyists. It is not surprising to most of us that have been doing this awhile, because it was traumatic to us in the beginning too. Given how different orchid roots look, the cost compared to a petunia, and the number of pages in orchid books devoted to the “dos and don’ts” of potting, fear is not surprising. So here is what everyone should remember.

Getting two or more orchids from repotting one should never be the reason to repot, although that is a frequent consequence. Repot when your orchid is at risk because the potting media is breaking down or there is some other problem, e.g. heavy scale infestation that cannot be solved without removing the plant from its pot. Remember that the bigger your orchid is, the more and larger flowers it will have.

Always sterilize any instrument that cuts an orchid. The best method is to hold your snips in the flame for a few seconds making sure you have exposed both sides of the entire cutting surface to the flame. A hot cutting tool effectively sterilizes the cut surface of the plant.

Do not worry about damaging roots, since most will ultimately die from the repotting anyway. Some expert growers remove almost all roots when they repot to avoid them rotting later and infecting the rest of the plant. If repotted at the correct time of the year, your orchid will quickly re-grow roots, but it may take a few years to acquire the root mass it had before repotting, hence the suggestion to avoid repotting unless absolutely necessary.

Many times I sit a cattleya with all of its roots removed in the bottom of a clay pot in a shaded portion of the greenhouse until I see tiny new roots starting. Only then do I add the medium and complete repotting. On occasion, I forget a plant and find it fully rooted to the pot the next spring. Again, the key point is that one should only repot during the growing season; i.e. now.

Most books recommend wetting the medium before using it, a recommendation that I do not endorse. This is an open invitation for bacteria and fungi to invade any open wounds on the plant. It is best to use dry medium and wait at least several days before watering your newly repotted orchid. Some growers lay their divisions on newspaper in an unused bedroom until new roots appear. Why waste a pot and medium if the division is not going to grow well.

The key to all repotting is to remember that your orchid has been shocked and lost most of its ability to obtain water. Cattleyas, dendrobiums and other orchids with thickened leaves will be fine if the plant is shaded heavily after repotting until they get new roots. Then, gradually give them more light. Other orchids that are terrestrial-like and/or have fine roots or thin leaves, need more care and may require some misting until new roots appear.

The one exception to the need to keep roots dry is when a medium is used that is toxic to bacteria and fungi, e.g. sphagnum or osmunda. The pH is so low that almost no bacteria harmful to plants will grow. This seems to be the medium of choice for many phal growers.



## Announcements & Upcoming Orchid Events

**May: Orchids: NC Zoo African Pavilion,** The NC Zoo in Asheboro blossoms with a month long orchid display at the African Pavilion. Linda Thorne is featuring a variety of plants from Seagrove Orchids. Orchids used for the show will be offered for sale to the public on June 4 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the zoo's Stedman Education Center. For more information, call 1-800-488-0444 or 336-879-7000, also see: <http://www.nczoo.org/events/orchidshow.html>.

Also: [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org), click on "Events" & then "Show Schedules"

TOS Member News, Passings:

Founding TOS Member, Mabel Hicks's husband, Jim Hicks passed away recently after complications from an accident last year.

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/newsobserver/obituary.aspx?n=james-hicks-jim&pid=142455038>

TOS Member Bette C. Parkins passed away in February after a year-long illness:

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/newsobserver/obituary.aspx?n=bette-c-parkins&pid=139886116>

### 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

**May 10th**

### Speaker

**Harold Hills**

### Topic

**Fragrance of Orchids**

**Member Plant Sale**

**June 14th**

**Martin Motes**  
**Plants for Sale**

**Intergenerics of Vandas & Ascocendas**

**July 12th**

**Robert Marsh**  
**Plants for Sale**

**Barkeria Species & Hybrids**

### Welcome Table

### Refreshments

**May**

**Need Volunteers**

**Lee Allgood**

**June**

**Need Volunteers**

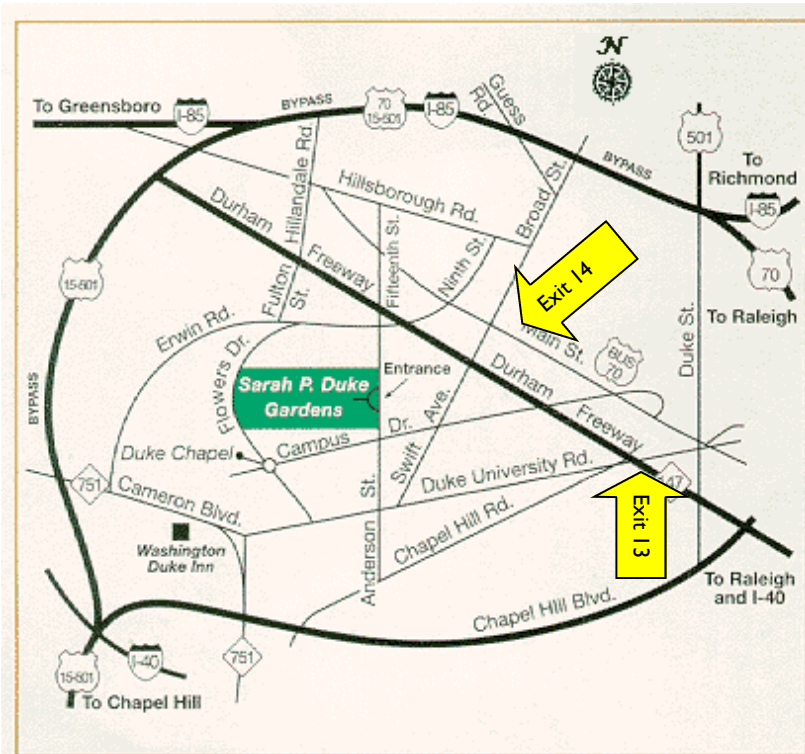
**Sally Carpenter**



**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.TriangleOrchidSociety.org](http://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**