



#### Newsletter of the Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Inside this issue:

## Speaker for January 10, 2011 Steven Arthur

Steve is a scientist. He worked for the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta and with the Department of Veteran's Affairs for thirteen years, doing research on animal tissue culture. More recently he taught middle school science for eight years in a private Catholic school, also in Augusta. He currently lives, with his wife, in Graniteville, SC.

He has two grown daughters.

Steve began growing orchids thirty years ago. His current greenhouse, in Graniteville covers 10,000 square feet of growing area. He grows a "mish-mash" of things, but tends to focus on Cattleyas. He has been making crosses fro years. He has a lab in his greenhouse and does contract work (aka sowing and harvesting seeds) for other nurseries. Steve is also closely affiliated with Carter & Holmes, frequently selling plants for them at the big Florida shows.

Once a month Steve drives five hours from Graniteville to Greensboro to attend judging – and then he drives back again, the same day. He is currently a probationary judge (he's put in his time as a clerk, has served a minimum of three years as a student, and was elevated to probationary status 21/2 years ago.) In February he will deliver his BIG presentation – a talk to prove that he knows enough to be elevated to fully certified judge status. Steve has chosen to do his presentation on Phalaenopsis bolemea

If you visit Steve's greenhouse you will enter the greenhouse and walk into a large meeting room where his local Orchid Society meets, and where he conducts classes on growing orchids. This meeting room is also home to sixteen birds – mostly Macaws, but also Yellow Winged Parrots and Quaker Parrots. He says that he purchased each of the birds while at Orchid Shows???

Steve's presentation to us will be an overview of the production process, from seed pod to blooming plant. He recently gave this same presentation at the Atlanta Botanic Garden where it was very well received.

Steve will be bringing plants to sell. He promises to have lots of "cute little things" that you won't find elsewhere.

## **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 to reserve a seat, at 919-969-1612 All are welcome Please remember to pay your 2011 dues promptly. For your convenience a statement accompanies this newsletter. Print it, fill it out, and bring it with you to the January meeting. Or, you can send it in to Melissa . What could be simpler!!

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**Blc Greenwich** 

<u>The Triangle</u> <u>Orchid Society</u> <u>meets at the</u> <u>Sarah P. Duke</u> <u>Gardens,</u> <u>Durham, NC</u> <u>The Second</u> <u>Monday of the</u> <u>Month</u> <u>at 7:30 PM</u>

www.Triangle OrchidSociety.org

## TOS Officers and Board Members

President Leo Sagasti (919) 942-9839 <u>leo@bjac.com</u>

Vice President Program Chairman Ralph Sears(919) 477-0843 ralphsears@gmail.com

Secretary Armando Neves (919) 538-2992 <u>armandonvs@gmail.com</u>

Treasurer Melissa Bullard (919) 929-6806 <u>mbullard@email.unc.edu</u>

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

#### **Board of Trustees:**

At Large Trustees: 2011 David Devine (919) 828-5332 <u>devinejd@aol.com</u>

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

At Large Trustees: 2012 Lee Allgood (919) 721-7192 lallgood851@yahoo.com

Sally Carpenter (919) 464-5764 <u>scarp919@aol.com</u>

At Large Trustees: 2013 Manuel Monserrate (919)931-5315 Monserrate.manuel@gmail.com

> Paul Welty (919)251-8097 pwelty@averillpark.net

## Minutes of the Last Meeting 12/11/2010

With food in hand and orchids in tow. members and guests of the Triangle Orchid Society assembled at 6:30 p.m., Monday, December 13, 2010, for the annual Holiday Party. Each table contained a beautiful centerpiece personally made by Sue Morand who was also in charge of the entire successful dinner. On one side of the room, a long table contained approximately 40 orchids, most of which had been obtained by Sally Carpenter for our annual Holiday Auction. Several tables contained all of the wonderful food contributions for our pot luck dinner. The other side contained our Show Tables with lots of glorious examples of blooming orchids. All together, the room was a sight to behold. Everybody had a wonderful time at dinner as the room was filled with merriment and good cheer. Thanks Sue!

But, alas, the meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by TOS president, Robin Gurlitz. Members and guests were welcomed. Both the November minutes and financials were accepted and approved. 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. Remember, if you **purchase** 5 raffle tickets, you will receive a 6<sup>th</sup> one for free.

Robin issued a special thanks to Sue Morand for her creativity in making the table centerpieces and managing the holiday party meeting. Sally Carpenter was thanked for selecting and obtaining from John Stanton most of the orchids for our Holiday Auction. Members and guests were reminded to sign up to bid for plants as there were many stunning varieties up for sale. Volunteers are needed to provide food and drinks for the refreshment table at each meeting for 2011. Please see Michael Arner for more details. We will participate in two shows in January, 2011. The first show is the N.C. Piedmont Orchid Society Show at the Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens near Charlotte, N.C. Show dates are January 14<sup>th</sup> through the 16<sup>th</sup>. Marie Crock will set up the exhibit and Miriam and Leo Sagasti will take it down. Marie would like to use some terrestrial orchids and other small plants as filler, so please bring them to the January meeting. We will need to borrow other blooming orchids for this exhibit and more info will be forthcoming the in the January, 2011 newsletter.

Alan Miller is in charge of setting up the Triad Orchid Society Show in Greensboro and David Pickett will assist someone in taking it down. We need someone with a van to be in charge of taking down the exhibit.

Phil Warner will coordinate our participation in the Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> talk on orchids for Darwin Day in Raleigh, N.C. More info will be forthcoming.

Bob Meyer reminded everyone that our own show is scheduled for Mother's Day weekend at the Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh. The space has been rented, judges lined up, and there will be lots of projects requiring much help from the membership. So far, both the Triad and Piedmont Orchid Societies have accepted our invitation to partici-

pate in putting in exhibits.

Alan Miller was asked to address the issue of preparing plants for inclusion in orchid shows. Alan recommended that plants be staked now and if repotted, to put them in the same position as before. We will not stake plants for shows. Multi-colored stakes are not permitted. Check each plant for scale two weeks before entering. The TOS will not put buggy plants into an exhibit nor will we do any trimming of plants. Lastly, be sure to put your name on your plant.

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Robin Gurlitz presented the annual State of the Society report. First, Robin thanked each Officer and Board Member for their work in either providing guidance and/or active participation in various Society events throughout the year. She said it was a great board to work with. The individual contributions were too numerous to mention here, but those named were: Alan Miller, Melissa Bullard, David Pickett, David Devine, Sally Carpenter, Bob Davidson, Lee Allgood, George Bizub, Jeremy Bueter and Phil Warner. In turn, Robin was recognized from the floor as being one of the most energetic presidents that the Society has had. She also recognized the contributions of other members throughout the year such as Nancy Harvey and Judith Goldstein for providing the food at Grower's Day, to Michael Arner for his work as refreshment chairperson, to our always interesting Show Table presenters: Bob Davidson, Paul Feaver and Nick Plummer, to our auctioneers and Josh Gurlitz for manning the computer, and to Lee Allgood for working on the Welcome Table.

Goals of the Society are to provide outreach to the community, education, and, fellowship. In terms of both education and outreach, we participated in three Regional Orchid Shows in 2010: a table top exhibit at both the Virginia Orchid Society Show near Richmond, Va. and the N.C. Piedmont Orchid Society Show near Charlotte, and a full exhibit at the Triad Orchid Show in Greensboro.

We also participated again this year with great success at the N.C. State Fair. Another wonderful Grower's Day at the Raulston Arboretum which was well attended was another example of both our educational endeavors and outreach to the community. Our booth at the Ideal Home Show in Raleigh was another example of how we are introducing orchids to a larger and broader percentage of the population.

In terms of fellowship, that is what we experience at each meeting or each event in which we participate as we get to know one another, discuss various issues regarding orchids, and, otherwise, just generally have a good time.

Robin thanked the membership for giving her the opportunity to serve as President and she is looking forward to her new role as Past President, turning over the President's role to Leo Sagasti. Paul Feaver and Nick Plummer did an excellent job of presenting plants on the Show Tables. The Jack Webster Award Plants were:

Greenhouse Grown: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Den aggregatum, Bob Meyer; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Epidendrum magnoiae, Paul Welty; and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Epidendrum porpax var album, Lee Allgood.

Non-Greenhouse Grown: I<sup>st</sup> Place, Cycnodes Taiwan Gold "Orchis" Bob Meyer; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place:, Paph spiceriana-Marie Crock; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Paph roebelinii x kolapakimgii-Marie Crock.

The meeting adjourned about 9:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by David Pickett, Secretary. To the membership: This is my last contribution to the Newsletter for 2010 as my term is ending. It has been my pleasure to be your Secretary for the last year and I look forward to returning as a Board Member in 2011.

Let's extend thanks and best wishes to Armando Neves, your new Secretary for 2011.



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# Orchidacea



1<sup>st</sup> Place Ribbon: Cycnodes Taiwan Gold "Orchis" Grown by Bob Meyer



# Jack Webster Awards Non-Greenhouse Grown



**2nd Place Ribbon:** Paph roebelinii x kolapakingii **Grown by Marie Crock** 

**3d Place Ribbon:** Paph spicereianum **Grown by Marie Crock** 

# Jack Webster Awards Greenhouse Grown



2<sup>nd</sup> Place Ribbon:
Epidendrum magnoiae (aka conopseum)
grown by Paul Welty

> **3<sup>rd</sup> Place Ribbon:** Epidendrum porpax var. album **grown by Lee Allgood**



1<sup>st</sup> Place Ribbon:
Dendrobium aggregatum
grown by Bob Meyer





## **Growing Tips for January**

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

This has been a year of extremes; hot and cold. Questions addressed to me these past months reflect that fact. Most questions this month related to cold. Even hobbyists who thought that they were ready for winter were caught off guard. My greenhouse heating system is based on the historic coldest night. I also build in redundancy. If one system fails all will not be lost.. This past month, the value of that planning has paid off, but that does not mean that there was no damage. Record low temperature coincided with a failure in the automatic vent that allows fresh air in when ventilation fans turn on. The vent was open all night when I was away and temperatures fell below freezing.

No plants were lost as a result because a backup heater kept the greenhouse warm enough to avoid catastrophe. However, my orchids were below the minimum lowest temperature orchids should experience and were damaged by the cold.

The most likely result from excessive cold (above freezing) is future bacterial rots. If this happens to all of your orchids it is a good idea to be proactive and treat all of your orchids and growing area. I sprayed everything with Kocide at half strength as a preventative. There are other copper based sprays that are equally effective. When using copper sprays make sure that the water you use is above pH 7 to prevent copper toxicity to your orchids. This treatment usually limits damage to only the newest growth or to tender orchids. If there are a few plants that show damage after the preventative treatment, remove the damaged tissue and treat the wound with hydrogen peroxide. Be sure to let any damaged plants dry more than usual before watering.

Unfortunately, not every grower will be aware that their orchids were damaged. This seems to happen more to windowsill growers who do not realize that their orchids adjacent to the window had leaves touching the glass and became so cold the plant was damaged. If rot develops on leaves it can spread to the entire plant. Phalaenopsis are especially vulnerable.

Some of the questions that came last month initially sounded like cold damage. However, the damage to leaves was brown and hard, not black and soft. Brown and hard indicates sunburn. Despite cold weather and dim light levels, the sun is at its lowest level of the year and reaching into windows with more intensity and longer than in summer. Typically, cold weather also brings with it extremely clear skies and low humidity and this combination can increase light intensity and burn tender leaves.

Usually, an orchid on a windowsill will not experience this type burn damage because they slowly adapt to a change in light intensity if they have not been moved. Just about every time an email arrives with the above damage description, the orchid was recently moved, even if it was just an inch or two. In one case, a cattleyas was put back in the exact spot where it had grown for a year. While in flower, it was moved into the kitchen. After flowering it was placed in the exact position, where leaves burned within a few days.

Orchids produce pigment in leaves to prevent sunburn, just as people do. Orchids can also locate chloroplasts closer to the leaf surface when light levels are low. Placing an orchid under low (or no) natural light for a couple of weeks is enough time for an orchid to adapt and be unprepared for its previous light level.

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# **Announcements & Upcoming Orchid Events**

### **NC Piedmont Society Orchid Show**

Upcoming orchid show Jan 14-16 (orchids needed by Tuesday Jan 11th to register them ahead of time). THEME: JEWEL вох ORCHIDS Marie Crock is looking for any jewel orchids to feature jewel orchids are fine (Non blooming here). ANY other orchids you have which are blooming are very welcome and needed. Bring your orchids to the TOS meeting on Monday January 10. Label them with your name (self adhering return address labels are great) and leave them in plain pots. Give them to Marie at the end of the meeting. Here is a contact for Marie if you have questions:



Cattleya percivaliana 'Summit'

bluebirdfield@earthlink.net

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:		Calendar 2010	Speaker	Торіс	
7:00-7:30		Jp Show Table Chairs	Jan 10	Steve Arthur Plants for Sale	Mericloning
7:30-7:40		ness Meeting ouncements			
7:40-8:30			Feb l 4th	Linda Wilhelm Plants for sale	Miniature Orchids
8:30-8:50	Refre	eshment Break			
8:50-9:20		v Table Review, v Table Awards	March I4th	Kelvin Taylor	Native Orchids In
9:20-9:30	Raffle	2	1401		North Carolina
Welcome Table			e Table	Refreshments	
January Lee Allgood Michael Arne			chael Arner		
Februa	ıry	Need	Volunteers	Need Volunters	



### Associated with

### Sarah P Duke Gardens

Interim Newsletter Editor Robin Gurlitz

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Watch for pictures of all your new board members in next month's Newsletter!

### In addition to the Piedmont show listed on page 7 The Triangle Orchid Society will be participating in the following Orchid shows this winter and spring:

Jan. 28—30th: Triad Orchid Society Show, Greensboro Garden Clubs, 4301-A Lawndale Drive, Greensboro, NC. We will need blooming orchids and volunteers to help take down the show Contact Alan Miller at <u>orchidacea@att.net</u>

to volunteer.

Feb 12 : Darwin Day, North Carolina Natural History Museum, Raleigh, NC. Contact Phil Warner to volunteer or loan blooming orchids. <u>pwarner@fminet.com</u>

# And our own show

May 6-8th : The Triangle Orchid Society Show, Raulston Arboretum, Raleigh, NC. Contact co-chairs Bob Meyer or Leopold Sagasti to volunteer for this show.

Working at these professionally judged shows is great fun and one of the best ways to learn about Orchids. Try it!!



<u>The Triangle Orchid Society</u> <u>meets at the</u> <u>Sarah P. Duke Gardens,</u> <u>Durham, NC</u> <u>The Second Monday of the Month</u> <u>at 7:30 PM</u>

### 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.

