



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Speaker for January 12, 2012 Steve Arthur

Steve has been growing orchids for over 40 years. In that time he has mastered the art of growing and reproducing these beautiful and varied plants. Whether it is climbing a tree in Central America, or finding native species in his home state of South Carolina, Steve is always on the lookout for the most unusual of species.

He grows plants in many sizes - from flasks directly from his on-site lab, to full blooming size plants in pots as large as 8 inches. 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 for years. From his lab he 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.

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 is an accredited judge. This means he has put in his time as a clerk, has served a minimum of three years as a student, then has a probationary period for 2-1/2 years. He passed his "tests" to become an accredited judge in 2011..congratulations, Steve!!

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, so the talk has been field tested.

Steve will have orchids for sale.

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 2012 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, with a check, to Sally Carpenter (see address at the end of the newsletter). What could be simpler??

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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 December TOS Meeting 12/12/2011

The December meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by the President of the TOS, Leo Sagasti. Members and guest were welcomed. Leo announced that the society ended the year with around \$4,000.00 less for the year before. There were a variety of new extra expenses for the year, including rental of storage facility, purchase of lamps and rental of bench space at Orchid Trail to name a few. The Spring auction, a good fund raiser was skipped because of our Spring Orchid show. This also impacted finances. We had a Wine and Orchids silent auction which was a lot of fun and did raise some money. Leo thanked all the volunteers who helped during the year and the retiring board members. A special mention to Jamie Graff and Bob Meyers, Paul Feaver, Nick Plummer, and others. We would like to give Michael Arner a very well deserved Thank You for coordinating the Refreshments Table for the last two years.

Ralph Sears, the Vice-President, thanked Leo Sagasti for his work during this year as a President. Ralph encouraged members to renew their membership, we have exciting speakers coming to our society next year. Ralph asked for volunteers to drive the speakers.

The financials and meeting minutes were accepted and approved.

Sue Morand asked for volunteers for the Welcome Table for the months of August and December., she has volunteers for all the other months. Nancy Harvey will be coordinated the volunteers for the Refreshment Table., this coming year. Volunteers are needed.

The group proceeded with dinner, with wonderful dishes prepared by our members.

Robin Gurlitz announced that the society is giving the Orchid Digest Diamond Award of Excellence to Allan Miller. Allan has been a wonderful volunteer and served as President, Vice-President, Photographer, Newsletter Editor, and has Organized any number of award winning orchid Shows. We all thank Allan for his long standing and outstanding contributions to the society.

The auction then took place and members had the opportunity to bid on excellent specimens of great blooming size and near blooming size orchids.

This month see the centerfold for the Jack Webster show table ribbon winners.

The meeting adjourned 8:30 pm. Minutes submitted by Armando Neves, Secretary





ANNOUNCEMENTS

WINTER SHOWS

International Phalaenopsis Alliance Region 13 Piedmont Meeting,

co-hosted by the Catawba Valley Orchid Society.

Saturday, Jan 28, 2012

Location: Hickory Furniture Mart, 2220 Highway 70 SE Hickory, NC 28602

Speakers: Tom Harper - New Breeding Trends in Taiwan Phalaenopsis, Michael Mims - The Colorful World of Fragrant Phalaenopsis; Hybridizing at Home, Lester Poole - Phalaenopsis: A Journey of Imagination

Contact: Linda Thorne at 336-879-6677 or Orchidlinda@rtmc.net

Registration \$15 includes lectures, lunch, admission to orchid sales & auction and the opportunity to enjoy the day in the Ultimate Furniture Destination. You must register in advance to ensure an accurate lunch count !

Go to www.phal.org to download [pdf registration form and direction map](#) and [2012 shop and stay packages](#) for those traveling from out of town.

DARWIN DAY, TRIANGLE ORCHID SOCIETY-

Saturday February 11, 11AM thru 5 PM

Darwin Day, North Carolina Natural History Museum, Raleigh, NC.

Blooming Orchids and Volunteers needed

N.C. PIEDMONT ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

Friday February 24 thru Sunday February 26

At Daniel Stowe Garden Belmont ,N.C. just west of Charlotte, NC

VIRGINIA ORCHID SOCIETY

Friday February 24 thru Sunday February 26

At Strange Garden Center, Short Pump in Richmond Va.

Theme: ORCHIDS.... "JEWELS OF THE JUNGLE"

SANDHILLS ORCHID SOCIETY

April 18 thru April 22nd

At Cape Fear Botanical Garden, in Fayetteville, NC

Note to volunteers: A table top display can be set up with a minimum two people . The backdrops and orchids can be carried in a 4 door car, with planning.



1st Place Ribbon:
Phrag. NOID
Grown by Marie Crock



**Jack Webster Awards
Non-Greenhouse Grown**



2nd Place Ribbon:
Cynoches Cooperi
Grown by Bob Meyer

3^d Place Ribbon:
Lc. Gold Digger X Diacrium bicornatum
Grown by Sue Morand

**Jack Webster Awards
Greenhouse Grown**



1st Place Ribbon:
Den. aggregatum
Grown by Bob Meyer



2nd Place Ribbon:
Cattleya Mamie Eisenhower
Grown by Olivene & Paul Virtue



3rd Place Ribbon:
Den. Maiden Charlotte
Grown by Paul Feaver



Courtney Hackney..Growing Tips for January 2012

Dept. of Biology, Univ. North Florida

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

Each year there are many email questions related to problems with growing specific orchids or asking for help diagnosing some disease or pest. There is also the occasional general question which asks "what is the most difficult challenge I face growing orchids?" It is also a question I get when I speak to orchid societies. The answer is growing many different species and hybrids, which come from many different habitats in one greenhouse.

Orchid species are always the most difficult because they evolved within a specific habitat and environment and often there is some critical need for rest, dryness, etc during some part of the year that must be met or the orchid dies or does not flower. Some hybrids derived from these species may also have a similar requirement, but typically hybrids are more forgiving if one forgets to give them the appropriate conditions.

In many cases a dry period is required to coincide with drought in the orchid's native habitat. It is fairly easy to set plants requiring a dry period aside and limit watering if there is lots of space or there are just a few orchids, but more difficult if one has several thousand orchids in a relatively small space. Over the years I have developed several approaches that have allowed me to manage problematic orchids.

The primary approach has been to place plants that require dry conditions in extremely coarse media or even to mount them. They are grown in the brightest part of the greenhouse where they dry quickly even when they are in a growth mode. While they may dry out more than would be ideal during their growth cycle, they also are more than dry enough during their dry season as well. For most, the dry requirement coincides with winter when watering is reduced anyway. I also take advantage of the change in the angle of the sun so that these orchids get more direct light in winter.

More problematic are orchids that want more water in winter and less in summer. These have not fared well over the years, but lately they have been moved outside during summer where they get only the occasional shower and little or no fertilizer and then moved under vandas in baskets during winter as these get watered most during the cool part of the year.

There are also orchids in my collection that do not like summer heat. Some of these come from high elevations where nights regularly go down into the 40's F, but never above 80 F during the day. I grow these mounted or in very coarse media also and keep them under benches in summer where it is coolest. Admittedly, they do not thrive in summer, but survive. Once the Fall Equinox arrives, they are moved into more light and in winter they go right against the glass in places where water drips during the coldest nights. Typically, they grow well and flower before the heat returns and they are returned to their under bench hiding spot where lots of air movement is maintained. If I forget to move them under the bench in time they go downhill fast and have been lost.

Roaches have been my biggest enemy since arriving in Florida. After the last mention of this problem in the "Tips" column there were several suggestions regarding Diatomaceous Earth. I have used this before in the house, but not sure if it would help in a greenhouse. Nevertheless, I obtained a bag and spread it on tables, but not on plants. Within a week or two dead roaches appeared on the greenhouse floor. These were the larval stages that cannot fly, but this is the first time I have had any success against these vermin. Thanks to those who sent me the suggestion

**The Orchid Digest Diamond Award of Excellence
is being awarded to
Alan Miller
by the Triangle Orchid Society of North Carolina**

Alan is and has been a wonderful volunteer for everything (except maybe the refreshment table)! Alan has helped our society in every possible way and has shown exemplary service over the many years of his membership. He has served as President, Vice President, Photographer, Newsletter editor. He has scheduled speakers, shepherded speakers and hosted speakers and coordinated with our three sister societies. He could design and execute a society show or a state Fair show with his eyes shut. Although I'll vouch he does it with his eyes open. Under his leadership the society has won numerous awards. He has mentored us for newsletter editing, presidencies, show design, leadership tips, board service, plant culture and many other volunteer roles. His quiet teaching and guidance has helped move Triangle Orchid Society forward. Most importantly he has been an effective and tireless ambassador, helping to make the world of orchids accessible and engaging to successive generations of novices, neophytes, and epiphytes.

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:		Calendar 2011	Speaker	Topic
7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Table and Chairs	Jan 9	Steve Arthur Will sell plants	Seed Pod to Blooming Plant
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting Announcements			
7:40-8:30	Program	Feb 13	Dr. Norito Hasegawa Will sell plants	Paphiopedilums
8:30-8:50	Refreshment Break			
8:50-9:20	Show Table Review, Show Table Awards	March 12	Watch this space TBA	Watch this space TBA
9:20-9:30	Raffle			

Welcome Table		Refreshments
January	Nicolette Petervary & Victoria McCollough	Nancy Harvey See Nancy Harvey to volunteer
February	Miriam & Leo Sagasti	See Nancy Harvey to volunteer

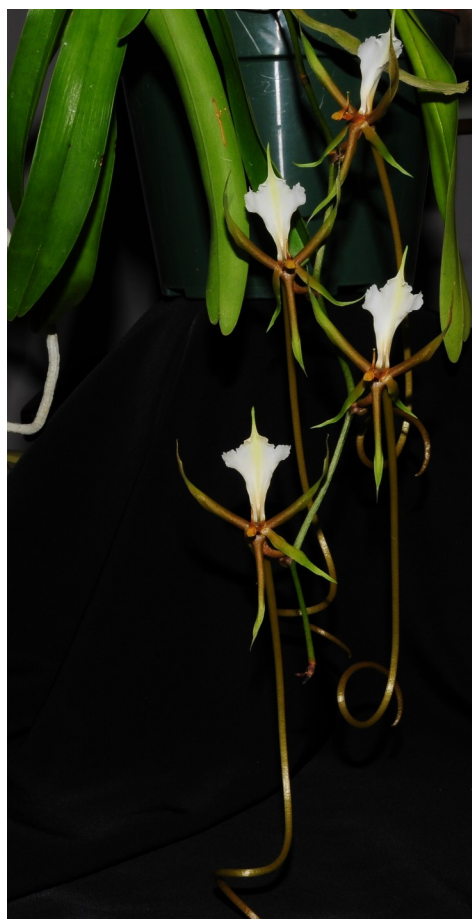


Associated with

Sarah P Duke Gardens

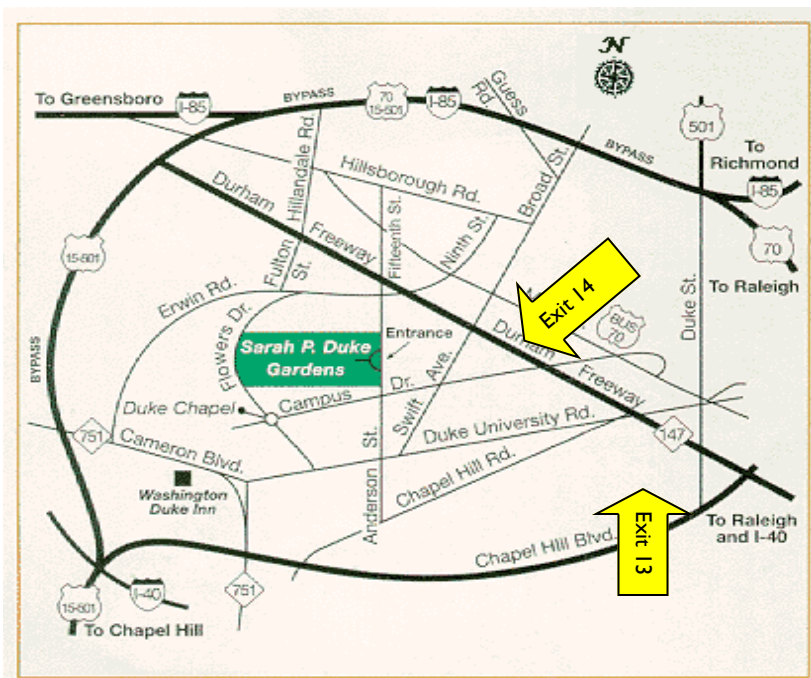
Newsletter Editor
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**Plectrelminthus
Caudatus**

West Africa



**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:

\$20 per year single, or **\$26** per year for two persons living at the same address.

Mail to: Sally Carpenter, TOS Treasurer 412 Church St. Smithfield, NC 27577