



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Program for August 12, 2013 Jim Fowler

Jim Fowler was born in Bennettsville, South Carolina. As a child, under the influence of his father and maternal great-grandmother, he developed an interest in nature in general and wildflowers in particular. An independent botanist and a software systems developer, Jim holds B.S. and M.S. degrees from Clemson University. He lives with his life partner in Greenville, SC. He has a passion for native orchids which seems to be incurable, with treatments that give only a temporary relief.

Jim's writing has appeared in the North American Native Orchid Journal, American Orchid Society's Orchid magazine, the Native Orchid Conference Journal, South Carolina Native Plant Society's monthly Newsletter, and numerous other publications. He is the author of Wild Orchids of South Carolina: A Popular Natural History, which was published in 2005 by the University of South Carolina Press. His photographic images have appeared in numerous magazines, newsletters, and websites in North America as well as overseas.

Recently retired, he is considering photography as a after-retirement career. The ability to get outdoors and commune with nature is a primary driving force in his decision. He currently devotes any free time he has to his photography blog: www.jfowlerphotography.com.

Jim can be reached via email at Jimstamp@aol.com.

Jim will not have plants to sell.

THERE WILL BE A MEMBER PLANT SALE
SO BRING THOSE EXTRA ORCHIDS!!

Monday Dinner with Speaker (note new venue)

5:30 PM - **before the meeting** at the Carrabba's Restaurant

5312 New Hope Commons Drive, Durham, across from New Hope Commons Shopping Center at the intersection of I-40 and US 15/501.

Call Alan Miller to reserve a seat at 919-969-1612 All are welcome

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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

TOS Officers and Board Members

Officers

President

Ralph Sears (919) 477-0843
ralphsears@gmail.com

Vice President

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

Secretary

Nancy Harvey (919)467-1627|
triangleorchidsociety@gmail.com

Treasurer

Anne Williams (919) 493-1727
annewilliams1973@hotmail.com

Past President

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johnmyhre@nc.rr.com

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legaldeacon84@yahoo.com

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sciftan@yahoo.com

Sidney Cox (919) 489-7173
sidney269@earthlink.net

Meeting Minutes July 8, 2013

The July 8, 2013 membership meeting of the Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Ralph Sears, TOS President. Several guests and 3 new members were welcomed and introduced. Approximately 48 members attended the meeting. The minutes of the June 10, 2013 membership meeting were approved as written.

Ralph asked for volunteers to help with the Fall Auction and our exhibit at the State Fair. If you can participate in these exciting TOS activities, please send an email to info@triangleorchidsociety.org or contact any Board Member to volunteer. See Erica Wolfe or Nancy Harvey to volunteer for the refreshment table at a future meeting. See Gerry Bowater or Jenny Sears to volunteer to help at the Welcome Table during any meeting. Ralph encouraged everyone to always read our wonderful Newsletter to find out about upcoming TOS events and view wonderful pictures of past activities.

Paul Welty, TOS Vice-President, introduced the speaker, Tom Kuligowski. His presentation was about angraecums. Be sure to visit his blog or facebook page to learn even more about these fascinating orchids. During the break, Robin and Josh Gurlitz provided refreshments and drinks for the evening. After the break, Paul Virtue and Charles Walker led an excellent show table discussion. As always, our members brought a wonderful assortment of beautiful blooming orchids to share!

The Jack Webster Award Plants were:

Greenhouse grown:

1st place for *Sedirea japonica* grown by Paul Welty;

2nd place for *Vanda Robert 's Delight* grown by Nancy Harvey; and,

3rd place for *Rodriguezia venusta* grown by Michael Wagner.

The Non - Greenhouse grown awards were:

1st place for *Podangis dactyloceras* grown by Charles Walker;

2nd place for *Phragmipedium pearcei* grown by Lee Allgood; and,

3rd place for *Phalaenopsis Flora Gigi* grown by Charles Walker.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m. Submitted by Nancy Harvey, TOS Secretary.



Escape to the Triangle Orchid Society's Fall Orchid Auction

Lake Crabtree Park, Raleigh, NC
Saturday, September 21, 2013
Pot Luck Dinner at 12:00 Noon
Auction Starts at 1:00 pm



Expand your orchid collection.
A wide variety of unusual orchids will
be available.
Orchids will be shipped directly from
Hawaii.



Enjoy good food and experience the
enthusiasm of local orchid growers.

Open to the public



Directions:
White Oak Shelter at Lake Crabtree
Park
Enter Park from Aviation Parkway.
Turn right at the 5th driveway. White
Oak shelter will be on your right.
Please note that parking is first-
come, first serve.

www.triangleorchidsociety.org info@triangleorchidsociety.org

[Visit our website at:](http://www.triangleorchidsociety.org)

www.triangleorchidsociety.org

Speaker Notes

Tom Kuligowski

Angraecoids have been one of my favorite genus of orchids since I went to my first orchid show and **saw at least six different species, all grown as superb specimen plants. I've been hunting them down** and growing them ever since. I was delighted when I learned that we had a speaker that would address these plants.

Despite everything Tom said, I feel they are among some of the most difficult species to grow and **bloom well. "Well" being the operative word. They can go for years and not bloom. However,** when they do bloom, the flowers are breathtaking and they become addictive. I have an *A leonis* that is eleven years old that continues to bloom at least three times a year. I also have a *A citrata* that blooms every summer under the cherry tree. This year it is developing seven inflorescences. Growing these plants is a challenge, but getting one to bloom is one of the most satisfying moments in orchid culture. Getting one to bloom well, with more than a minimal flower count, well for me it represents a life time achievement.

There are one hundred and fifty species in this genus, and most come from the island of Madagascar, and the coast of East Africa. All the species in the genus share a number of characteristics – they all have a monopodial growth habit (ie single stem): thick succulent foliage, concave (bowl shaped) lips, and they all have the infamous nectariferous spur. The flowers are either star shaped or square. They all produce their buds inside a protective sheath on the stem but once that sheath is pierced the buds are fully bloomed within twelve days. True, there are limited color choices. Most are white, or open with a faint tint of green or pink that rapidly fades to a brilliant white. There the similarities end. This is a genus with tremendous diversity of shape, size, and foliage.

A leonis is probably my all time favorite in this genus. It has short stems, and the foliage is folded in on itself. Each inflorescence carries one to four flowers. The flowers open with a faint green tint. It does well in a pot, but loves being mounted. On a mount however, watering is critical. Too much, the plant turns to mush. Too little, the plant will sit and look at you for years. If you can find the right spot for it, and the right medium, it will bloom three times a year. The flowers last three weeks. I love them because they literally sparkle in the sunlight. Tom said that these do well if grown dry while the plant is young. If the foliage shrivels, you have overwatered. It is considered a slow growing species.

A didieri, also a favorite, has blooms that are as big as the plant itself. This plant is a true miniature but the flowers are about the same size as *A leonis*, measuring one two to two and a half inches across. Mine is mounted on a piece of cork that is only two inches by three inches and it has lots of room. The flowers are so big that when it blooms it seems out of proportion. It sets kiekies readily but they can be difficult to establish on their own. When grown on a mount you can actually see algae growing on the roots. The new roots are silvery and covered with warts while the old ones are dark and appear desiccated.



A sesquipedale is probably one of the best known plants in this genus. It is also one of the largest. This is the plant that Darwin observed and described, predicting the moth with a nose long enough to reach the bottom of the nectary. These flowers are stunning! They are a glistening, brilliant white, star shaped, and can be up to six inches across. They are also incredibly fragrant. Tom said the scent is citrus-like but I think it is more spicy. Tom also said that the plants will bloom as seedlings. He recommends growing them like a Vanda, but with slightly less direct light. He also cautioned that allowing water to accumulate at the base of the foliage will cause the plant to rot.

A eburneum is another well-known species. Again, this is a large plant. It sends out long inflorescences with glistening white and green flowers arranged in sequence along both sides of the stem. This is one plant that truly resents being repotted. Tom indicated that it does well in a basket or a mount, but repotting must be accomplished with as little disturbance to the roots as possible. Tom said that the roots are so sensitive to being handled that he does not pick off any extra material when he takes them out of the container. He also recommended growing this species in a non-organic material to reduce the frequency of repotting. It does set keikeis and Tom said that these can be cut from the mother plant and grown independently.

A citrata is an exception to the high light needed by most of these plants. It prefers medium to heavy shade. It is best grown mounted and will send out multiple inflorescences that develop very slowly. When it does bloom, all the flowers open simultaneously, giving you a spectacular display. It has a wonderful fragrance, and the flowers are a pristine, brilliant white.

This is a genus that is still relatively untouched by hybridizers, although I believe this is beginning to change. Currently, one of the best known hybrid is A Lemforde White Beauty which was made in 1984. This is a cross between A magdalenae and A sesquipedale. Its flowers average five to six inches across. They are flat and rounder than most from this genus, but they have the heavy texture and brilliant, glistening white color. It blooms every six to eight months with only one or two flowers. Mine has done this for four years but the plant has not put on any vegetative growth in all of that time. Tom noted that one of its parents, A magdalenae is now extinct in the wild. It is a difficult plant to find, but well worth growing. I had mine on a mount for over six years until it finally succumbed. It is a reluctant bloomer but the WOW factor when it did was off the chart.

Tom's presentation was, for me, one of the most exciting presentations we've had in a long time. Its great to see someone so passionate and excited about the plants he's chosen to support. I'm looking forward to the book he says he'll publish "soon

Thank you to Joy Lemieux, of the Sandhills Orchid Society,
for this transcription of Tom's talk.

An open letter from Tom Kuligowski to the Triangle Orchid Society

To the Triangle Orchid Society,

I would like to extend a very special thank you to Beth Niver for putting the wheels in motion and making it possible to come up to North Carolina and present my lecture on Angraecums to your society. Also to Paul Welty and his wonderful wife for hosting my stay in their beautiful home. I would also like to thank all of the members that were in attendance for the presentation. I do hope you were all able to attain useful information and the want to grow these beautiful plants. The following list of vendors are the three that I use and purchase from on a regular basis. They each carry a range of Angraecoids of 6 - 15 species/hybrids at any given time. Be aware though that the time of year and the number of shows that they participate in may effect the plants they have available.

www.goldcountryorchids.com 916-645-8600

www.oakhillgardens.com 608-831-6768

www.calorchid.com 805-967-1312

You can trust any and all of these vendors and be assured that the plants they sell are of the highest quality. And if there is ever an issue, make sure you let them know; they do want your repeat business and will resolve issues immediately. You can stay abreast on the information I make available regarding Angraecoids via www.angraecums.blogspot.com and all important changes and additions at www.facebook.com/tkangraecums (just click the like button). Thank you everyone; this trip was very rewarding for me as I hope it was for you!

Gratefully,..Tom Kuligowski





Courtney Hackney..Growing Tips for August 2013
Dept. of Biology, Univ. North Florida

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

While there are many facets to growing orchids that hobbyists must learn, there are only two real stages.

The first stage can generally be called the “learning stage”. Developing familiarity with orchid names, understanding the cultural needs of different orchids groups and finally applying all of the knowledge gained from books, lectures, fellow orchid hobbyists, and experts to your own situation. It does not matter if you grow under lights, on windowsills or in a greenhouse, this “learning stage” occurs. You know you are out of this stage when your biggest problem comes from having more orchids than space.

This phase can take a few years or decades, depending on the individual. Often, the process moves from windowsill culture to lights and finally into a greenhouse. There are great differences between each requiring continual learning and cultural adaptation. Most hobbyists never finish this phase, which is fortunate for those who sell orchids. Hobbyists in this phase must continually replace plants lost as they learn proper culture, pest and disease control and repotting.

Hobbyists in the “learning stage” often lack sympathy for hobbyists that make it to the “containment stage”. This stage is characterized by the need to constantly discard orchids because they keep multiplying. This stage can be confused with a process that occurs in stage one, buying more plants that there is space for. Hobbyists in stage one need to recognize stage two hobbyists because they are a source of both cultural advice and plants. More importantly, orchids from a nearby hobbyist are likely already adapted to local conditions. Their culture, i.e. potting mix, pot type, etc, also provides a model for those in the early stages of stage one.

The transition from stage one is usually not obvious to the grower. It begins when one particular group of orchids, e.g. intergeneric oncidiums begin to fill pots and are always in flower. It might seem that this would be an obvious transition point into stage two, but most hobbyists seem to enjoy the frustration of failure and begin to purchase orchids more difficult to grow.

The usual pattern is to try hybrids of other orchid groups such as Cattleyas. Once these are growing well and the challenge becomes repotting, species begin to grow as a percentage of a collection, often at the exclusion of the orchids that were once such a challenge, but now take up too much space. Hobbyists satisfied with their ability to grow the orchids that initially attracted them to the hobby could easily move into stage two, but sadly most abandon the hobby. For the rest, moving to increasingly challenging types of orchids becomes the mantra. Given the number of orchid species and groups, one may never graduate to the second stage, even though knowledge and cultural expertise becomes extensive.

Ultimately, hobbyists entering stage two either specialize in one group of orchids, e.g. Bulbophylums, or some unique grouping, e.g. Classic Cattleyas. A very few make their own hybrids, which produces the greatest problem plaguing members of stage two; deciding which seedlings to keep. It is one thing to discard a hybrid purchased long ago or a clone for which there are thousands of duplicates, but discarding your own hybrid clones is like tossing your own children out. While each one may not be awardable, each has special attributes that only you as the hybridizer can appreciate.

So, weep for me this fall! Selecting from among my own seedlings that have already been selected for some special trait and/or selecting which of my favorite classic cattleyas or phalanopsis to keep must happen before it gets cold. Or... perhaps I can talk my spouse into expanding my greenhouse! Of course, than can lead to stage three; “the divorce” stage.

Triangle Orchid Society Growers Day 2013

Lee Allgood talks on the rewards of growing orchids:
“Growing Orchid Inside & Out”



Our Grower's Day friends
Listen to Paul Feaver



More lobby orchids



Speakers included:

Sidney Cox...Indoor High Light Orchids

Sarah Patterson..Indoor Low Light Orchids

Suzanne Hens..Indoor growing

Jen Modliszewski & Neil Jacobs.. Native Orchids



Paul Feather ,
of
Orchid Trail,
Presenting
“Problems and Pitfalls”



And, orchid Sales complete a



THANKS TO:

Suzanne Hens and all the great
volunteers & speakers who worked
to make Growers day great!



Jack Webster
Awards
Non-Greenhouse

1st Place Ribbon:
Podangis dactyloceras
Grown by Charles Walker



2nd Place Ribbon:
Phrag. pearcei
Grown by Lee Allgood



3d Place Ribbon:
Phal. Flora Gigi
Grown by Charles Walker

!!!ALAN MILLER PROVIDES ALL OF THE SHOWTABLE PHOTOS..THANK YOU ALAN!!!!

Jack Webster
Awards
Greenhouse
Grown



1st Place Ribbon:
Sedirea japonica
Grown by Paul Welty

2^d Place Ribbon:
Vanda Robert's Delight
Grown by Nancy Harvey



3^d Place Ribbon:
Rodriguezia venusta
Grown by Michael Wagner



—FALL AUCTION—

OUR FALL AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT LAKE CRABTREE PARK, WHITE OAK SHELTER, MORRISVILLE, NC., ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21.

POT LUCK LUNCH STARTS AT 12:00 NOON AND THE AUCTION STARTS AT 1:00 PM.

THERE ARE LOTS OF VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES . CONTACT SIDNEY COX TO VOLUNTEER TO TRANSPORT PLANTS, SET UP AND TAKE DOWN, BE AN AUCTIONEER. SEE SIDNEY AT THE NEXT MEETING.

THE SECOND SET OF MUGS DESIGNED BY SUZANNE HENS ARE ALMOST GONE.

ANYONE WISHING they HAD ordered them can purchase the 2 remaining mugs.

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:		Calendar 2013	Speaker	Topic
7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Table and Chairs	August 12, 2013	Jim Fowler	Orchids of Newfoundland
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting Announcements			
7:40-8:30	Program	Sept. 2013	Steve Arthur	
8:30-8:50	Refreshment Break			
8:50-9:20	Show Table Review, Show Table Awards	October 2013	Alan Koch	Watch this Space
9:20-9:30	Raffle			

Welcome Table

Refreshments

August	Jenny Sears	Nancy Harvey & Sarah Patterson
September	Jenny Sears	TBA



Associated with

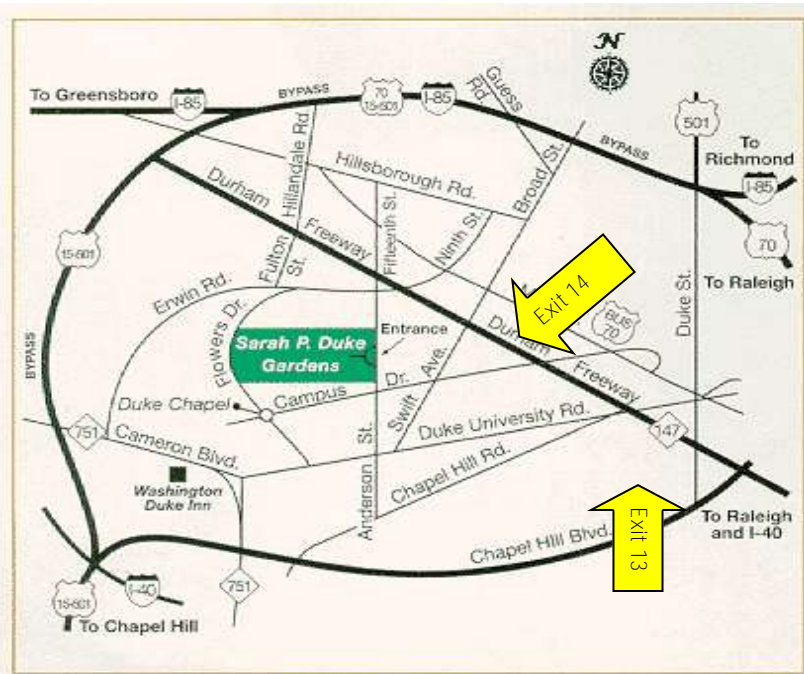
Sarah P Duke Gardens

Newsletter Editor
Josh Gurlitz

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



Phragmipedium sedenii



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.

Send your dues to: Anne Williams, TOS Treasurer, 1506 Kent St. Durham, N.C. 27707