



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Speaker for February 11, 2013 Jen Modliszewski & Neil Jacobs

Native Orchids of the Carolinas: A Photographic Perspective on the Lives of Rare and Local Orchid Species

Jen is an amateur photographer with a passion for plants, which began in her parent's vegetable garden and the shaded forests of the Blue Ridge Mountains. In 2005, Jen and her husband, Neil, began a quest to document the native orchids of the Carolinas. Jen's focus is mainly on macro photography, because the splendor of most native orchids is difficult to appreciate with an unaided eye. Jen obtained her B.S. and M.S. degrees from North Carolina State University in botany and horticulture. She continued her studies at Duke University; for her dissertation research she investigated the effects of polyploidization on evolution in the shy monkeyflower, *Mimulus sookensis*. In January of this year, she began work as a postdoctoral researcher at UNC-Chapel Hill.

Neil grew up in Charleston, SC, and spent his childhood roaming the swamps of Francis Marion National Forest. Unlike Jen, he has no formal education in anything related to biology. He has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Physics from USC and NC State, and a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science from NC State. When he is not playing the role of key grip for Jen's photography, he is staring at the forest floor somewhere between Pisgah National Forest and the Green Swamp.

PLANTS WILL BE FOR SALE

Monday night Dinner with the Speaker

5:30 PM - before the meeting at the Neo China Restaurant
4015 University Drive, Durham behind Target at South Square Mall.
Call Alan Miller to reserve a seat at 919-969-1612 All are welcome

Inside this issue:

<i>This Month's Speaker</i>	1
<i>Minutes of the Last Meeting</i>	2 - 3
<i>Jack Webster show Table awards</i>	4 -5
<i>TOS Officers & Trustees, 2013</i>	6-7
<i>February Growing Tips Courtney Hackney</i>	8
<i>Speakers Notes Nick Plummer</i>	9
<i>Meeting Agenda & Announcements</i>	10
<i>Map and directions To Sarah Duke Gardens.</i>	11

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

www.TriangleOrchidSociety.org

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Meeting Minutes January 14, 2013

Membership Meeting Minutes:

The Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. members met at Sarah P. Duke Gardens in Durham, NC on January 14, 2013. Ralph Sears, TOS President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Approximately 55 people attended the meeting on this warm, rainy night. Two guests were welcomed. The minutes of the December 10, 2012 membership meeting were approved.

Jenny Sears was recognized for organizing the Welcome Table and selling raffle tickets. **Please see Jenny and sign up to help with the Welcome Table at one meeting during the next year.** Everyone was encouraged to purchase raffle tickets at \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.00. Members who bring plants for the Show Tables receive free raffle tickets for each plant, up to a maximum of five free tickets!

Ralph encouraged everyone to pay 2013 dues to the TOS Treasurer, Anne Williams. He reminded us that those who pay in January will receive a 15% discount on one plant at The Orchid Trail!! **Ralph encouraged all members to help grow our membership. Dues and plant auctions are TOS's main source of revenue.** A gift membership in TOS, which includes receipt of the Newsletter for one year, could encourage a friend to join; or, present a friend with a gift plant from one of the TOS auctions.

Ralph recognized Josh Gurlitz for producing such an informative Newsletter and thanked Alan Miller for supplying most of the beautiful photographs included each month. **The "TOS Grower of the Month" feature in the TOS Newsletter is open to all members who wish to share their experiences growing orchids.** Josh would like to feature a different member, and photos of their favorite flowers, in several future newsletters. To participate contact Nancy Harvey.

Consult the Newsletter, and mark your calendar for upcoming shows, auctions, and annual activities, like the Green Swamp Orchid Walk, and Grower's Day. TOS has a variety of opportunities for volunteering, learning about orchids, and having fun with great people who share your love of orchids!! Ralph asked all members to bring ideas to the February 14, 2013 meeting about the kinds of orchids they would like to see on the raffle table and at the upcoming Spring Auction. **Ideas for fundraising are always welcome!**

Paul Welty, TOS Vice-president, asked for ideas about future speakers or programs. He then introduced TOS member, Nick Plummer, who presented a program entitled "What have they done with our Laelias?! Learning to love the reorganization of the Cattleya alliance".

Following the speaker's presentation, there was a short break for refreshments. Thanks were extended to Erica Wolfe, who provided refreshments and drinks for the evening. **Please contact Erica if you can provide refreshments for a future meeting. This is a great opportunity to volunteer with a friend!!**

Paul Feaver and Ralph Sears led the show table discussion. Our show tables had an awesome variety of orchids in bloom. Since time prevents the discussion of every plant, please raise your hand if you want to know more about a specific plant.

The Jack Webster Award Plants were:

Greenhouse grown:

- 1st place for *Brassavola Little Stars* grown by Lee Allgood;
- 2nd place for *Cattleytonia Jamaica Red* grown by Paul and Olivene Virtue; and,
- 3rd place for *Coelogyne mossiae* (probably *Coel. Unchained Melody*) grown by Alan Miller.

The Non-Greenhouse grown awards were:

- 1st place for *Encyclia cordigera* grown by Suzanne Hens;
- 2nd place for *Paphiopedilum Harrisoniana 'Emily Rabbit'* grown by Melissa Ballard; and,
- 3rd place for *Pleurothallis Rowleei 'Fox Den'* grown by Lee Allgood.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by Nancy Harvey, TOS Secretary.



Phragmipedium sedenii



Dendrophylax funalis Jamaican Ghost Orchid



**Jack Webster Awards
Non-Greenhouse
Grown**



**1st Place Ribbon:
Encyclia cordigera
Grown by Suzanne Hens**



**2^d Place Ribbon:
Paphiopedilum Harrisoniana
“Emily Rabbit”
Grown by Melissa Bullard**

**3^d Place Ribbon:
Pleurothallis Rowleei “Fox Den”
Grown by Lee Allgood**





**Jack Webster
Awards
Greenhouse Grown**

**1st Place Ribbon:
Brassavola Little Stars
Grown by Lee Allgood**



**2nd Place Ribbon:
Cattleytonia Jamaica Red
Grown by Paul & Olivene Virtue**



**3d Place Ribbon:
Coelogyne mossiae
(probably Unchained Melody)
Grown by Alan Miller**

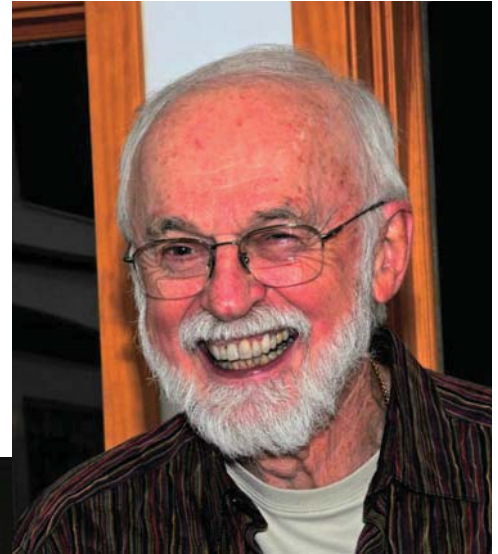
ALAN MILLER PROVIDES ALL OF THE SHOWTABLE PHOTOS..THANK YOU ALAN!

T.O.S. OFFICERS

2013



**RALPH SEARS
PRESIDENT**



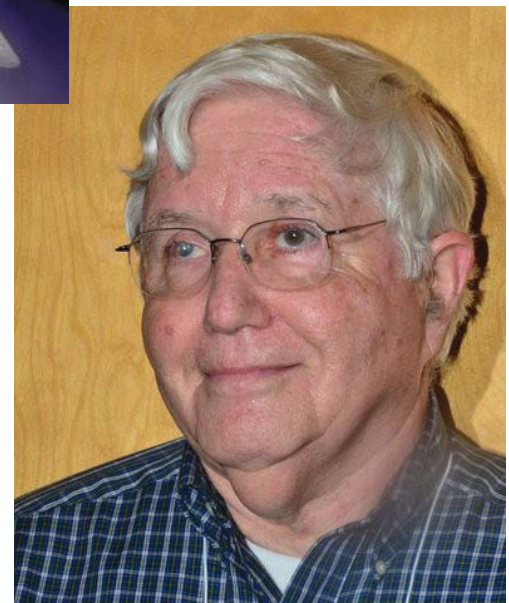
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**JOHN MYHRE
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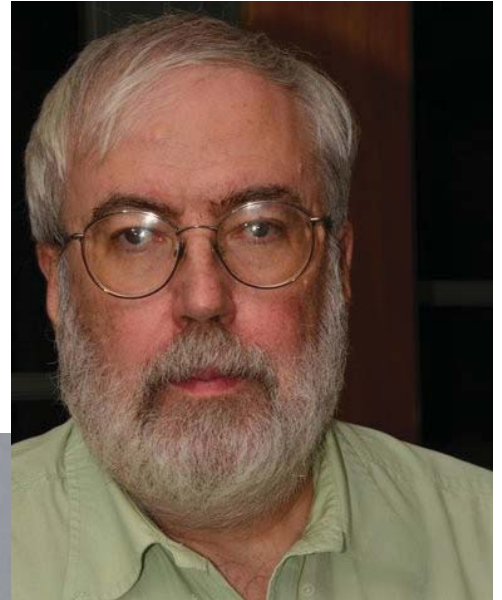


CONNIE HOWARD
2013

**NICOLLETTE
PETERVARY**
2014

T.O.S. TRUSTEES

2013-2015

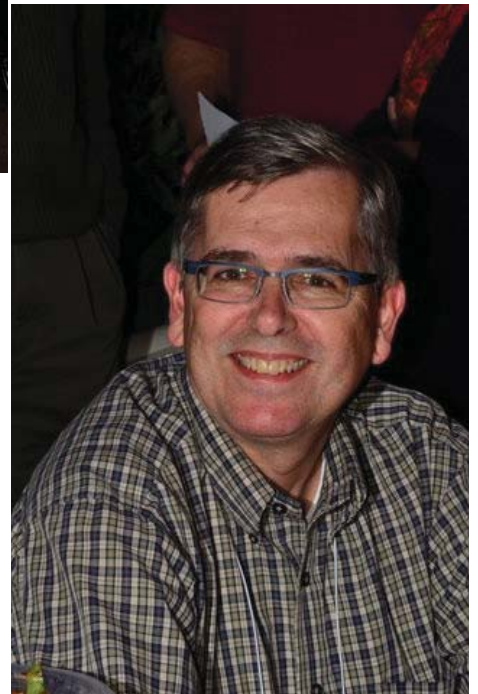


DAVID PICKETT
2013



SUZANNE HENS
2015

**ALSO :
GERRY BOWATER**
2014



SIDNEY COX
2015

Courtney Hackney..Growing Tips for February 2013

Dept. of Biology, Univ. North Florida

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

The only real rule of orchid growing is that the rules are just guidelines. Winter was brief and many different orchids are both blooming earlier and initiating growth early relative to most years. Orchids that rely on day length instead of temperature for blooming are following their normal blooming and growth pattern. Readers of this column know my normal advice is to limit fertilizer applications to warmer months, but this year is different because the environment where my orchids are growing has been different. My orchids that rely on temperature to start are in a different growth stage than those that rely on day length. How do I know that some have started their growth cycle and others not? Should fertilizing applications begin if some orchids are growing and others are not?

There are many hanging orchids in my greenhouse, not just because of space, but because they are some of the “canaries” that tell me how my orchids are interpreting light levels and temperatures. Especially important in my greenhouse are bifoliate cattleyas, such as *C leopoldii* and *C guttata*. When these species initiate their new growth, spring is officially here no matter what the calendar says and they are getting close to initiating new growths.

Many of my spring blooming cattleyas and paphs are orchids that use temperature to tell them when to grow and flower. Unfortunately, this year these will be finished flowering when the spring orchid shows need exhibition plants. Many of these have almost always bloomed within a week or so of the same time each year, but this year will be an exception based on buds I see swelling in the sheaths.

When orchids initiate new growths, it is time to begin using fertilizer regularly and at higher doses. After several months of flushing during the fall and winter, nutrients adhering to media have largely been lost or used up. During the last several years, I have limited fertilizers in an attempt to avoid producing lush foliage that can be attacked by bacteria and fungi.

There are some orchids that do receive regular fertilizer, albeit at lower levels in winter. Those include orchids that are growing and blooming such as phals and paphs, which I keep in different places. Many cymbidium growers follow a similar fertilizer regimen, but use fertilizer higher in phosphorus, the middle number, starting in fall.

Hobbyists with just a few plants have an easier time making the decision because they can look at each plant and decide to fertilize or not. This is really easy if Nutricote, which lasts six months, is your fertilizer of choice. The balanced formulation is an excellent one for all orchids and safe to use. I usually add it to the surface of the medium in early March, but recommend adding it now if your orchids are starting to grow new leaves or breaking eyes for new pseudobulbs. If you cannot find Nutricote in your local store, check with Carter & Holmes Orchids. They sell small quantities. If your temperatures have not been as warm as here in north Florida, you might need to wait a little longer. Let your orchids tell you when you need to begin adding fertilizer.

It will be interesting to see if there will be extra bulbs or leaves this year with a longer growing season.

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

www.triangleorchidsociety.org

What have they done with our Laelias?!

Learning to love the reorganization of the cattleya alliance

Nick Plummer

Traditionally, orchids have been classified primarily on the basis of flower structure. In the past ten to fifteen years, however, DNA sequencing has demonstrated that older classification systems do not accurately reflect the evolution of these plants. As a result of DNA sequencing, several groups of orchids popular in cultivation have been extensively reorganized, with significant effects on both species and hybrid nomenclature.

In the cattleya alliance four widely cultivated genera – *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, *Sophranitis*, and *Schomburgkia* – have been affected. Traditionally, *Cattleya* has been divided into three main groups: Unifoliolate cattleyas, Brazilian bifoliolate cattleyas, and central American bifoliolate cattleyas. *Laelia* is a diverse group with species in Mexico and Brazil. The Brazilian species include plants such as *L. purpurata* and *L. pumila*, which closely resemble cattleyas, as well as the rupicolous (rock growing) species with brightly colored flowers. *Sophranitis* has two main sub-groups, one containing *S. cernua* with its small clustered flowers, and the other containing all the other species. *Schomburgkia* likewise has two sub-groups, one with solid pseudobulbs that is primarily from northern South America and the other with hollow pseudobulbs that is primarily Caribbean and central American.

Phylogenetic trees inferred from DNA sequencing data did not support these genera. It was immediately clear that the central American bifoliolate cattleyas (e.g. *C. skinneri*, *C. aurantiaca*, etc) were more closely related to *Rhyncholaelia* than they were to other *Cattleya* species. Consequently, they were moved to a new genus, *Guarianthe*. The genus name is based on Guaria, a Costa Rican word for orchid. Similarly, the laelias fell into two groups. The Brazilian species are closely related to *Sophranitis* and *Cattleya*, while the Mexican species are related to *Schomburgkia*. Initially, it was proposed to move the Brazilian laelias to *Sophranitis*, but more recently both *Sophranitis* and Brazilian laelias have been added to *Cattleya*. The hollow-pseudobulb Schomburgkias (which are related to *Epidendrum*, *Caularthron*, and *Barkeria*) were renamed *Myrmecophila*. The genus *Myrmecophila* had been proposed before, but the name didn't stick until the DNA sequencing confirmed that these plants are quite different than the solid-pseudobulb species. The genus name, meaning "ant lover," refers to the symbiotic relationship these plants have with ants that live within their hollow pseudobulbs. The solid-pseudobulb Schomburgkias turned out to be closely related to the Mexican laelias. In fact, *Schomburgkia* is closer to *L. anceps* than *L. anceps* is to the other Laelias. Consequently, the solid-pseudobulb Schomburgkias were merged with *Laelia*, and there are no longer any orchids that go by the name *Schomburgkia*.

One consequence of this reclassification is that the various genera now make more sense geographically. Instead of being split between Mexico and Brazil, *Laelia* now ranges from Mexico, through central America and into Northern South America. *Cattleya* is primarily a Brazilian genus with some unifoliolate species extending into the northern Andes and Central America. A second consequence is wholesale renaming of intergeneric hybrids within the cattleya alliance. This renaming may be annoying and requires additional work at shows. In the long run, however, it is likely to create more stability than if the alliance were broken into a great many small genera as was proposed by some botanists after the first DNA sequencing data was published.

THANKS TO NICK FOR PROVIDING THIS SUMMARY OF HIS PRESENTATION

WINTER & SPRING AREA AOS JUDGED ORCHID SHOWS

February 22-24: Virginia Orchid Society, Richmond VA.

March 8-10: Piedmont Orchid Society, Charlotte, NC.

April 19-21: Sandhills Orchid Society, Fayetteville, NC.

If you are interested in setting up or helping with any of these shows please contact President Ralph Sears.(919) 477-0843 or ralphsears@gmail.com

Volunteering for an AOS judged show is one of the very best ways of learning about orchids. Attending a judged show is both informative and a great way to meet orchid hobbyists in other societies. There are always experienced growers and vendors at these shows. If you have not done this before, this is the year to try it!!

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:		Calendar 2013	Speaker	Topic
7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Table and Chairs	Feb. 11	Jen Modliszewski & Neil Jacobs	Native Orchids
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting Announcements			
7:40-8:30	Program	March 11	Special Event Watch this Space	Special Event
8:30-8:50	Refreshment Break			
8:50-9:20	Show Table Review, Show Table Awards	April 8	Linda Thorne	TBA
9:20-9:30	Raffle			

Welcome Table

Refreshments

February	TBA	Robin & Josh Gurlitz
March	TBA	TBA



Associated with

Sarah P Duke Gardens

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Josh Gurlitz

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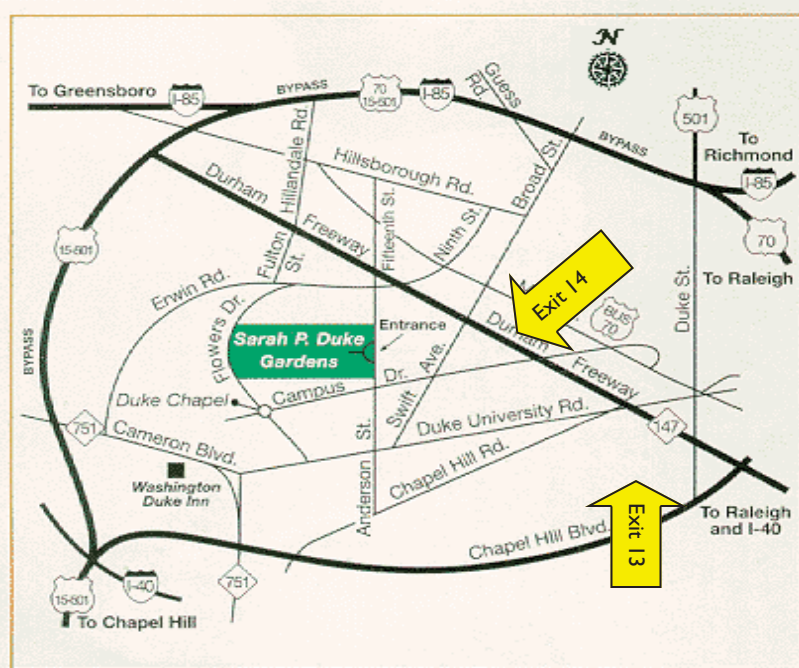
GREEN SWAMP ORCHID WALK



Cleistes bifaria orchid

One of the fascinating orchids found in the Green Swamp area.

We are pre-planning a guided visit to the Green Swamp near Wilmington, NC. to see native orchids in a coastal habitat. Our own Tom Wentworth will be our guide. The tour would be in early May. We are checking interest in this outing. If you are interested please see Josh Gurlitz, Paul Welty or Tom Wentworth.



**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