



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Program for July 8, 2013 Tom Kuligowski

Tom Kuligowski is an avid orchid grower. He specializes in Angraecums and has been an award-winning photographer for over 40 years.

Tom's presentation will provide both hobbyists and serious growers with fundamental guidelines to grow these beautiful plants successfully and in turn, grace you with years of enjoyment. Specific culture requirements are also available through www.angraecums.blogspot.com with update notices made via www.facebook.com/tkangraecums. Most of the photographs within the presentation, the blog and the Angraecums facebook page are of plants from Tom's collection. Many of them showing the various growth stages (from seedlings to first time bloomers to specimen plants).

"No matter the level of grower we are, we have an opportunity to grow plants that are close to extinction if they have not already vanished in the wild. We should take advantage of the various seed programs made available to us and grow plants that once thrived in a natural habitat."

Tom 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

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Meeting Minutes June X, 2013

Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. Membership Meeting Minutes:
 The June 10, 2013 membership meeting of the Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Ralph Sears, TOS President. One guest and approximately 47 members attended the meeting on this humid summer evening. The minutes of the May 13, 2013 membership meeting were approved with corrections.

Special thanks were extended to John Stanton and Paul Feaver for making the May meeting at the Orchid Trail Greenhouses such an outstanding success. Everyone was urged to check out the June Newsletter to see the fantastic picture collage of the May Meeting.

Erica Wolfe asked for volunteers to do the refreshment table for the remainder of the year. If you can participate by doing refreshments or other efforts to make TOS meetings even more exciting, send an email to info@triangleorchidsociety.org or contact any Board Member to volunteer. Gerry Bowater and Suzanne Hens ran the Welcome Table and sales of raffle tickets and mugs. Please see Gerry to volunteer to help at the Welcome Table.

Mark your calendars for the Durham Garden Councils ' Advice Fair on Tuesday, July 16. TOS will have a large table at this event. Please come, just to check it out, or volunteer to spend some time at our table, answering questions about orchids and orchid growing as a hobby (make that obsession). We will be asking for the loan of plants that you bring for Show Tables at the July Meeting since the Advice Fair is the next night. Please contact Nancy Harvey at triangleorchidsociety@gmail.com to volunteer for this new event for TOS.



Ralph Sears, TOS President, introduced the speaker, Arthur Chadwick. His presentation was entitled “**First Ladies and their Cattleyas, 1929 - Present.**” It was very interesting to learn that there was a large Orchid/Tropical Conservatory on the White House grounds until it was replaced by construction of the West Wing.

After the program, Jeanette Massengill and Anesha Johnson provided refreshments and drinks for the evening. Then, Lee Allgood and Paul Feaver, led an excellent show table discussion. The windowsill growers brought an especially exciting assortment of plants to this meeting!!

The Jack Webster Award Plants were:

Greenhouse grown:

1st place for *Ascofinetia Cherry Blossom* grown by Bob Meyer;

2nd place for *Paph. Saint Swithin* grown by Olivene Virtue; and,

3rd place for *Laelia lobata x Laelia purpurata* grown by Paul Virtue.

The Non - Greenhouse grown awards were:

1st place for *Phal. Baldin 's Kaleidoscope ' Golden Treasures ' AM/AOS* grown by Sidney Cox;

2nd place for *Miltonia Maui Lavender* grown by Suzanne Hens; and,

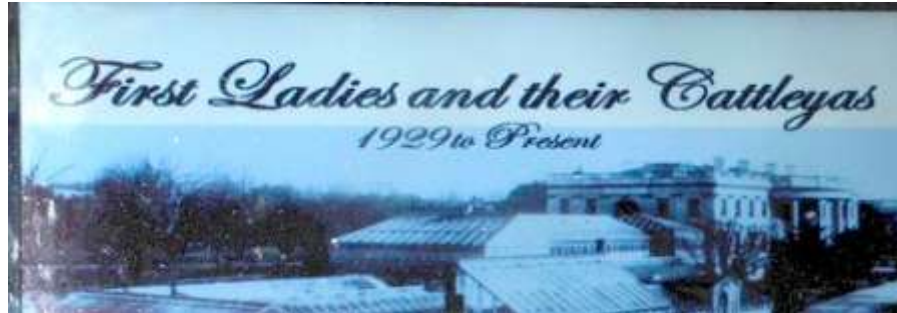
3rd place for *Mexipedium xerophyticum Windy Hill HCC/AOS* grown by Charles Walker.

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

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

www.triangleorchidsociety.org

Art Chadwick



The most critical piece of information Art provided, in my opinion, is the chart of Blooming Dates – **both sides**. **I've laminated mine and have it hanging over my potting bench, just to remind me.** The first thing I did with the Chart was to check its accuracy. Much to my great wonder and amazement I found that my *C gaskelliana*, which is blooming now, is right on time. My *C schroederae* has just finished blooming, so maybe my plant is a little late – or the chart is a little skewed. Looking back through my data base however, I found that *C perciviliana* had bloomed in April, not December and *C maxima* had bloomed in February, not November. As a hobby grower these dates are not critical to my success or failure as I am not dependent upon these bloom times for any commercial reasons. But, I wondered, why were so many dates out of synch? and was this affecting the quality or quantity of the blooms?

The flip side of Art's chart provided my "Aha" moment. I've always bought into the conventional wisdom that Cattleyas, like so many other Orchids, need a period of dormancy. But when?? And for how long?? Until I read Art's chart, I've simply cut back on water during the coldest months, roughly Dec. though Feb., and then resumed "normal" watering. Trying to interpret Art's chart however, I suddenly realized that there are actually two periods of dormancy for some of these species. And, I realize, neither one of these is related to our cold period or winter!!

When I lived in Bogota, Columbia we joked about the "rainy season". In actual fact, it rained every day. However, at certain times, it rained an awful lot harder than at other times. Each morning the sky would be clear and the sun would shine. By noon, the storm clouds would begin to develop. **During the "not rainy" season, there would be a brief shower mid-afternoon,** and then the sky would clear and the sun would shine again. During the rainy season, however, the rain clouds would form, and by mid-afternoon there would be a deluge that flooded streets, washed away mountains, and backed up any drainage system invented by man, no matter how scientifically designed. During all of this, year-round, there was minimal variation in temperatures. The mornings were always bright and warm. During the actual rainstorms the temperatures dropped several degrees. Trees and shrubs and flower gardens bloomed year round. The rainy seasons came more or less twice a year, corresponding roughly to spring and fall in the northern hemispheres.

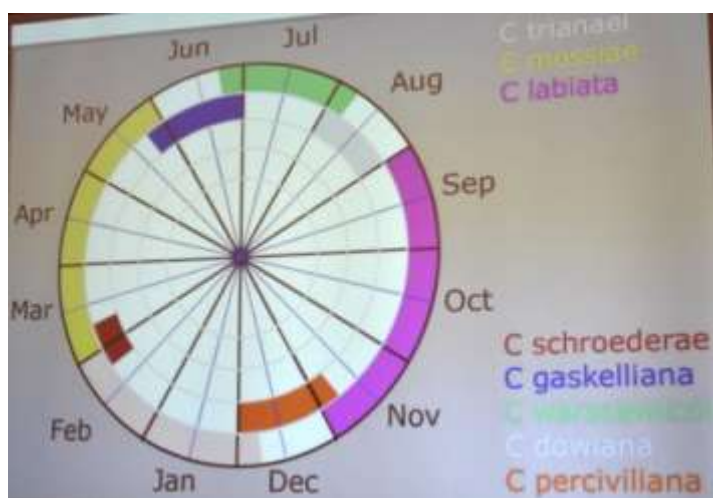
Looking at Art's chart of "rest" periods, and reflecting on the weather as I knew it in Columbia, it seems to me that most species from Central and northern South America actually have two dry periods, and two rainy periods. Has the conventional wisdom been so wrong? or did I miss something?? I

suspect I just have not been paying attention, and have simplified my culture to accommodate my own schedule rather than trying to replicate the environment that these species call home.

So, I've made the decision to try to get my *Cattleya* species back to their more normal bloom seasons. To do this, I'll have to isolate them from the hybrids, and color code their tags so I will know when to water, and when to allow them to dry out. I will then adjust my watering schedule to more closely conform to a yearly cycle of rain and dry periods. Now if I could only find some way to vary the temperature to accommodate warm and cool growers.....

Art's presentation certainly was educational for me. I was impressed by his photos of the lovely hybrids that have been named for our First Ladies. It was interesting to note that *C mossiae* and *C trianaei* featured so predominately in his breeding program. It was fascinating as well to see how each time of a different species was utilized that the appearance and form of the resulting hybrid was impacted. I enjoyed as well his little historical commentaries – who would have thought that the beautiful old glass greenhouse would be replaced by the West Wing of the White House? But the part of his presentation that impacted me the most was his chart of Blooming Dates. Proving yet again that it's never too late to learn something new.

Thank you to Joy Lemieux for this transcription of Art's talk.



Courtney Hackney..Growing Tips for May 2013

Dept. of Biology, Univ. North Florida

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

Just for fun, I took a look at some of the old “Tips” columns for July and found a common theme; heat and humidity. One might think that given the fact that most horticultural orchids come from tropical environments, summer’s heat and humidity would be an ideal time for orchids. While that is true for some orchids, such as strap-leaved vandas and many encyclias, species from the tropical environs and their hybrids often struggle this time of year because many of them come from higher elevations where temperatures do not reach levels found in our green-houses or yards.

In addition, the large number of growers who grow under lights or windowsills must contend with family members who “insist” on air conditioning the indoor environment. This produces an ideal temperature for humans, but reduces humidity to levels that cause most orchids to dry out when they should be producing luxurious new growths or leaves.

It is usually obvious from the questions that arrive at the “Tips” email this time of year where a grower has their orchids. “My phal was growing well with flowers, but they dried up and my leaves are shriveling, the lower ones turning yellow. What do I do?” is a common question and suggests that the orchid is growing indoors. The solution is to provide more humidity. While this is a good solution, often the hobbyist has already succeeded in killing the phal roots because their response to flower drop was to water more frequently. Typically, the orchid is in sphagnum that now holds only dead roots. Can the orchid be saved? Yes, but only if repotted and kept under ideal conditions for some time. If this is a “Big Box” pot plant-type phal, my suggestion is to discard it and get a new one in flower and provide a new location with better humidity this time.

The other scenario I get sounds much the same, but the description usually mentions leaves turning black or mushy indicating that this plant is almost certainly being grown outdoors where it receives lots of rain from afternoon showers followed by high temperatures, an ideal environment for bacterial rots.

If you have experienced one of these scenarios be assured that many of us have had this experience, but are now able to grow great orchids despite a few missteps in the beginning. Remember that commercial nurseries grow under many different conditions, but each had to learn what worked for them, just as every new grower must. They also have the luxury of access to many kinds of pest and disease control products that a new grower may not have. There are some hybrids and species that are almost impossible to grow in hot humid climates without such products.

The advice to understand your new orchid’s natural habitat if you want to grow it well works for species, but may not for hybrids. Plant labels are often missing for many pot plants or the abbreviations impossible to interpret for a new hobbyist. Even an experienced grower would find it difficult to guess what conditions a Vuyl, (Vuylstekeara = *Miltonia* x *Cochloida* x *Odontoglossum*), requires since there are so many different species that could be in the background. When I am asked about growing complex hybrids such as a Vuylstekeara,, I tell the novice to grow it like a cattleya, since the goal of those generating pot plants is to produce an orchid that grows easily in a variety of conditions.

GREEN SWAMP WALK..2013



ONE BUNCH OF HAPPY SWAMP-WALKERS!!



Cleistes bifaria



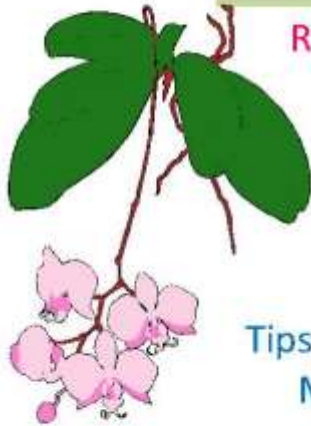
Pogonia



Calopogon barbatus



Escape to the Annual Orchid Growers Day



Raulston Arboretum, Raleigh, NC
Saturday, August 3, 2013
10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Registration starts at 9:30 am



Registration Includes:

Tips for growing and blooming orchids
Morning and afternoon lectures
Lunch and refreshments
Quality orchids for sale
Souvenir orchid plant



2013 membership to the Triangle Orchid Society

Open to the public. Pre-registration \$25 (\$28 at the door)

Pre-registration is due August 1st

To register, please send your full name,
email address and check payable to the
Triangle Orchid Society to:



Anne D. Williams
1506 Kent Street
Durham, NC 27707-1536



www.triangleorchidsociety.org info@triangleorchidsociety.org

FOR ALL OF US WHO ALSO LIKE GARDEN VARIETY PLANTS, SARAH P. DUKE GARDENS IS SPONSORING **AN 'ASK THE EXPERTS' DAY AT THE SARAH P. DUKE GARDENS.**

2013 GARDENER'S FAIR

Ask the Experts



Sponsored by
Durham Garden Forum
Sarah P. Duke Gardens
NC Cooperative Extension



Tuesday, July 16th from 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Doris Duke Center

Free admission

Featured Booths

- Stone Brothers and Byrd - *Garden Tools*
- Barbara Albertus, manager of the Durham Garden Center - *Hottest New Plants*
- Michelle Wallace, Durham County Extension Agent - *Container Gardening*
- Marilyn Cox, owner of I Must Garden - *Repellants*
- Sara Smith, member of Duke Gardens' propagation team - *Plant Propagation*
- Rhonda Sherman, solid waste specialist in the NC State Dept. of Bio and Ag Engineering and Lynne Nelson, Extension Master Gardener - *Vermicomposting*
- Donna Devanney, president of the Durham Beekeeping club - *Beekeeping*
- John Monroe, owner of Architectural Trees - *Trees*
- Triangle Orchid Society - *Orchid Care*
- Beth Kelly, owner of The Plant Lady - *Shade Plants*
- Laura Webb-Smith, Storm Water Educator for the City of Durham - *Rain Gardens*
- Emily Brogan, owner of The Rock Shop - *Mulches, Compost and Stone*
- Master Gardener Volunteers of NC Extension - *General gardening questions*
- Susan Walter Sink, the Tarheel Foodie, LLC - *Cooking demo*
- Lisa Treadaway, owner of The Little Herb House - *Herbs, Growing and Using*
- Byron Schermerhorn of Wild Birds Unlimited - *Feeders, houses, equipment*



Jack Webster Awards
Non-Greenhouse
Grown

1st Place Ribbon:
Phal Baldwin's Kaleidoscope
'Golden Treasures' AM/AOS
Grown by Sidney Cox



2nd Place Ribbon:
Miltonia Maui Lavender
Grown by Suzanne Hens



3d Place Ribbon:
Mexipedium xerophyticum
'Windy Hill'
Grown by Charles Walker

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

Jack Webster
Awards
Greenhouse
Grown



1st Place Ribbon:
Ascofinitia Cherry Blossom
Grown by Bob Meyer



2^d Place Ribbon:
Paph. St. Swithin
Grown by Olivene Virtue

3^d Place Ribbon:
Laelia lobata x L. purpurata
Grown by Paul Virtue



—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 READY.

If you preordered these mugs plan to pay and pick them up at our May meeting. ANYONE WISHING they HAD ordered them you can do so at the May meeting.

| Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda: | | Calendar | Speaker | Topic |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| 7:00-7:30 | Set Up Show Table and Chairs | July 8, 2013 | Tom Kuligowski | Angraecums |
| 7:30-7:40 | Business Meeting Announcements | | | |
| 7:40-8:30 | Program | August 2013 | Jim Fowler | Orchids of Newfoundland |
| 8:30-8:50 | Refreshment Break | | | |
| 8:50-9:20 | Show Table Review, Show Table Awards | Sept. 2013 | Steve Arthur | |
| 9:20-9:30 | Raffle | | | |

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Welcome Table | Refreshments |
|----------------------|---------------------|

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|------|-------------|----------------------|
| May | Jenny Sears | Robin & Josh Gurlitz |
| June | Jenny Sears | Nancy Harvey |



Associated with

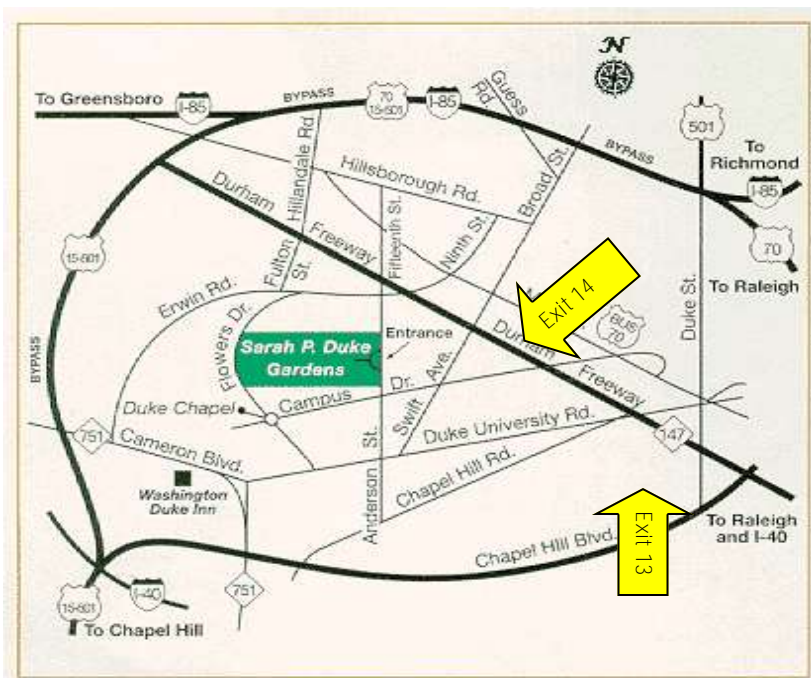
Sarah P Duke Gardens

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Angraecum Crestwood by our speaker
Tom Kuligowski



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