



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Program for March 11, 2013

We have a new and exciting format for our March meeting. We will have a panel of experienced growers who are all experts on orchids. Our panel will discuss orchids and field questions from our members. Now is the time to ask those esoteric cultural questions that have been bothering you and plaguing your plants.

We will also experiment with a different seating arrangement. We will sit at round tables and have access to the refreshments before the beginning of the program with drinks and snacks available throughout the meeting.

Of course we will have our regular raffle and a member plant sale. The sale will also include duplicate books from our TOS library. See the notice inside the newsletter for more information about the book sale.

All-in-all this meeting will be focused on increasing your level of orchid information whether from our panel members, people at your table or from the great books on sale.

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

Monday Dinner

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

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

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!
neharvey@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Anne Williams (919) 493-1727 an-
newilliams1973@hotmail.com

Past President

John Myhre (919) 772-5514
johnmyhre@nc.rr.com

Board of Trustees

At Large Trustees: 20123

Connie Howard (919) 309-9014
fcoat@aol.com

David Pickett (919) 688-8410

legaldeacon84@yahoo.com

At Large Trustees: 2014

Gerry Bowater

gbowater@unch.unc.edu

Nicolette Petervary (919) 424-7557

At Large Trustees: 2015

Suzanne Hens (919) 452-5545
scifan@yahoo.com

Sidney Cox (919) 489-7173

sidney269@earthlink.net

Meeting Minutes February 10, 2013

The Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. members met at Sarah P. Duke Gardens in Durham, NC on February 10, 2013. Ralph Sears, TOS President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Approximately 54 people attended the meeting on this warm winter evening. One new member and three guests were welcomed. The minutes of the January 14, 2012 membership meeting were approved.

Jenny Sears and Sidney Cox organized the Welcome Table. Please see Jenny to 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. When members who bring plants for the Show Tables buy raffle tickets they can receive a free raffle ticket for each plant they bring, up to a maximum of five free tickets! Jenny encouraged everyone to pay 2013 dues as they picked up name tags and raffle tickets. **Remember , if you want to continue receiving the informative Newsletter and get one of the lovely new name tags, you must pay your 2013 DUES by the end of March!**

Consult the TOS Newsletter to learn about upcoming shows, auctions, and annual activities, like the Green Swamp Orchid Walk, and Grower's Day. **Comments and suggestions are always welcome!** Fill out a questionnaire at the Welcome Table as you pay your dues or talk to any Board Member if you have new ideas or want to volunteer to help with shows, fundraisers, or other TOS activities. TOS has a variety of opportunities for volunteering, learning about orchids, and having fun with great people who share your love of orchids!! **Volunteer with a friend for double the fun!**

Ralph Sears and Gerry Bowater conducted a **plant sale and silent auction** during the meeting. Buy a beautiful blooming plant for yourself or a friend at TOS meeting plant sales and auctions. This exciting new fundraising activity insures high quality, nursery grown, plants will now be available at most meetings when the speaker is not selling plants. These beautiful plants will also be on the raffle table! While at the sales table, pick up a flyer advertising our meetings to post in your neighborhood in support of our membership drive; and be sure to check out the new **TOS coffee mug!** It is only \$14 and may have your 2012 show table winner's picture in dishwasher safe color!

Ralph Sears, TOS President, introduced TOS members, Jen Modliszewski and Neil Jacobs, who presented a program entitled "Native Orchids of the Carolinas: A Photographic Perspective on the Lives of Rare and Local Orchid Species".

Following the speaker's presentation, there was a short break for refreshments. Thanks were extended to Robin Gurlitz, who provided refreshments and drinks for the evening. Please contact Erica Wolfe if you can coordinate refreshments for a future meeting.

Paul Virtue and Phil Warner led the show table discussion. Bring your blooming plants to share on the show tables and enjoy BOGO raffle tickets, up to five free raffle tickets. You could also win a ribbon and see your plant's picture in the next Newsletter, or even on one of the TOS mugs next year!

The Jack Webster Show Table Award Plants were:

Non-Greenhouse grown:

1st place for Paph Saint Swithin grown by Phil Warner;
2nd place for Amesellia phillipensis grown by Charles Walker; and,
3rd place for Phal Super Pixie x Brecko Dawn grown by Tom Wentworth.

Greenhouse grown:

1st place for Slc Jewel Box 'Dark Waters' grown by Paul and Olivene Virtue;
2nd place for Dendrobium kingianum grown by Rob Malling; and,
3rd place for Coelogyne tomentosa grown by Alan Miller.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by Nancy Harvey, TOS Secretary.

There will be a first time ever book sale at our March membership meeting. Selected books from our excellent library will be on sale with the larger, better books marked at \$5.00 and older books marked at \$2.00.

Some of these books are extraordinary so be sure to check them out.

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

www.triangleorchidsociety.org

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

TOS Program, February 11, 2013

Presenters: Jen Modliszewski and Neil Jacobs

North Carolina has well over 70 species of orchids, not including the many named hybrids, varieties and forms. These orchids are spread throughout the state's three physiographic provinces: the coastal plain, Piedmont, and mountains. In North Carolina, the native orchid season begins with *Listera australis* and *Corallorhiza wisteriana* blooming along the coastal plain and Sandhills in March. Following these early coastal species, a boom of orchid flowering happens in the month of May, when various *Cleistes* and *Calopogon* species, as well as *Pogonia ophioglossoides* and can be found blooming at both the coast and in the mountains. *Galearis spectabilis* (showy orchis) is a stunning spring-flowering orchid found only in the mountains – it is definitely an orchid that is not to be missed! Additionally, the lady-slipper orchids, namely *Cypripedium acaule* (pink lady's slipper) and *Cypripedium parviflorum* (yellow lady's slipper), as well as puttyroot orchid (*Aplectrum hyemale*) and mauve sleekwort (*Liparis liliifolia*) can be found locally and in the mountains throughout the month of May. *Isotria medeoloides* is a rare and federally-threatened orchid that occurs in both the mountains and the piedmont during the spring – the more common and closely related *Isotria verticillata* is more likely to be spotted.

During summer in the mountains, the fringed *Platanthera*, which are reminiscent of purple snow angels, dominate the orchid scene. Locally, *Malaxis unifolia* (adder's mouth orchid) and *Goodyera pubescens* (rattlesnake plantain) are both recognizable by their distinctive leaves – *M. unifolia* possesses a solitary leaf, while *G. pubescens* has a basal rosette of attractively veined leaves. *Hexalectris spicata* (crested coralroot orchid) is a local summer-blooming orchid with beautiful waxy magenta and caramel colored petals. *Platanthera peramoena* (purple fringeless orchid) is perhaps the showiest of the local summer-blooming orchids, although one must traverse swamps and brush in order to admire it. *Platanthera integrilabia* (white fringeless orchid) is also inconspicuously located in swampy, low-lying areas, but it is only found hidden deep in the woods in the far western reaches of the state. In mid-summer along the coast, the sole epiphytic orchid native to the Carolinas, *Epidendrum magnoliae* (green fly orchid) can be found high up in the trees of live oaks, often in association with spanish moss and resurrection fern; an interesting population is also found on Altamaha Grit rock formations in southern Georgia.

As the heat of summer continues, the white and yellow-fringed orchids (*Platanthera blephariglottis*, *Platanthera ciliaris*, *Platanthera cristata*, and *Gymnadeniopsis integra*) can be found in abundance near the coast. The three birds orchid (*Triphora trianthophora*) signals the end of the summer flowering season in the mountains, as the first fall cold front passage triggers a mass sunrise bloom. Locally, the orchid flowering season comes to an end with the common fall-blooming species, *Tipularia discolor* (crane fly orchid), *Corallorhiza odontorhiza* (autumn coralroot) and *Spiranthes cernua*. Several other *Spiranthes* species can be found statewide in early fall. *Spiranthes longilabris* is the last species of the year to bloom, and can be found in the Green Swamp in mid-November.

When searching for and photographing the native orchids of the Carolinas, there are a few things to keep in mind. The first is that one should not be fooled by the size of printed images of flowers in field guides. Many native orchids are quite tiny – some are just a few millimeters across. They are also usually quite short, and blend in surprisingly well with their surroundings. Our approach to photographing these orchids is to arrive as prepared as possible for any condition, especially lighting conditions. Sometimes this may involve removing light from the composition through an umbrella, and then adding it back in with reflectors or off-camera flash. In the end, there is no way to ensure that you will be pleased with your photos, but if you take lots of photos and be sure to take time to appreciate the beauty of the orchid and its home, you will be rewarded!



Cleistes bifaria

Photos from
the field
shared by
Jen & Neil



Jen & Neil in the field

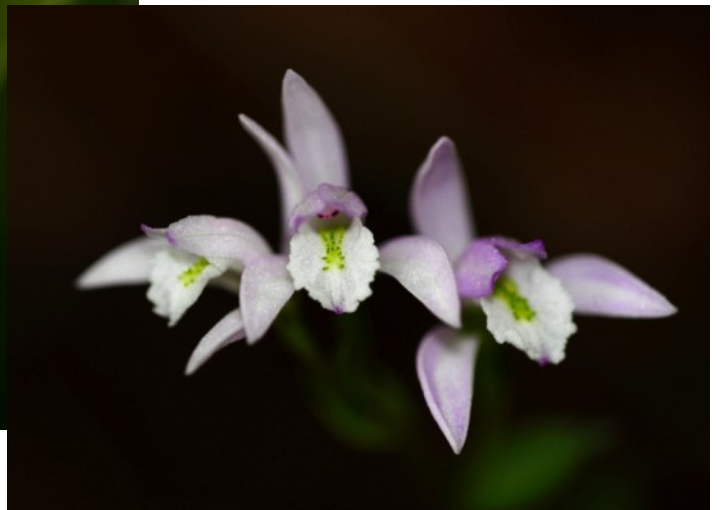
**Cypripedium
parviflorum**



Triphora trianthofora



Platanthera peromoena





**Jack Webster Awards
Non-Greenhouse Grown**

1st Place Ribbon:
Paph. Saint Swithin
Grown by Phil Warner



2nd Place Ribbon:
Amesellia Phillipensis
Grown by Charles Walker



3d Place Ribbon:
Phal. Super Pixie x Brecko Dawn
Grown by Tom Wentworth

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



**Jack Webster Awards
Greenhouse
Grown**



1st Place Ribbon:
Slc. Jewell Box "Dark Waters"
Grown by Olivene & Paul Virtue



2^d Place Ribbon:
Den. kingianum
Grown by Rob Malling

2^d Place Ribbon:
Coelogyne tomentosa
Grown by Alan Miller





Courtney Hackney..Growing Tips for March 2013

Dept. of Biology, Univ. North Florida

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

Spring is here; at least it was today. No matter when it finally arrives, there are a few indicators that should be obeyed when it does. For me, small dead roaches in a cup of water said it was. Empty cups are left on benches among plants and moved around each week to be sure that my watering is thoroughly soaking pots and media. It is surprising how often I find a portion of a bench that seems to be neglected when it comes to water. The drowned roaches, however, indicate that some insects are beginning to hatch and become active, thanks to warmer night temperatures.

If you follow this column you may remember that the large roaches, “Palmetto Bugs”, that rule Florida have been my worst enemy since moving here five years ago. An old friend, Karen Tobiassen, suggested that I try Orthoboric acid. Sold in a fine granular form, the product was initially scattered around on benches especially where I had either seen roaches during one of my late night “roach hunts” or seen roots eaten by what I suspected were roaches. Some was also applied on the surface of extra orchids to be sure there were no negative effects on my orchids.

Initially, I was disappointed because there was no pile of roach corpses scattered under benches. After a couple of weeks, I noticed fewer damaged roots near areas where the Orthoboric acid had been placed and dead roaches nearby. Most important was the fact that these dead roaches were terminal larval stages that are the most destructive because they live in the bottoms of orchid pots. They were often found during repotting and very hard to kill with pesticides while hiding in the pot among the medium and crock or Styrofoam peanuts. Better still was the fact that the orchids and their roots in pots saturated with the stuff looked just fine when I removed these from their pots. An application throughout the greenhouse in early fall seemed to eliminate these pests all winter.

Their return was not surprising, given the fact that there is lots of nature outside the greenhouse that sneaks in during winter. A spring application will begin this month even though I have seen no apparent damage yet.

There is a mystery that has long intrigued me with respect to orchids and disease. There are number of commercial growers and friends from whom I receive orchids where I expect problems. It is not the quality of their orchids, but the fact that plants from them develop more than a normal level of diseases once in my growing area. Why? I have examined these plants carefully, looked at nutrients in their tissues that are usually high, and not found satisfactory answers. Conversely, my orchids as well as those from some other growers rarely have these problems even though they are growing side by side.

My suspicion was that my own plants had some type of immunity or at least resistance to many diseases that these other orchids did not have. While plants do not have circulatory systems where disease fighting cells will move to diseased areas, they do have an immune response. The immunity is stimulated by previous attacks from pathogens and communicated around the plant via plant hormones called auxins. Even more interesting is the fact that some auxins can be passed from plant to plant via the air, even to plants of different species.

A new product that attempts to stimulate Systemic Acquired Resistance (SAR) is now being marketed for various vegetable crops and is reputed to boost the plants immune system, increase plant growth and flowering and even decrease the incidence of Botrytis. Will such a product work on orchids that grow slowly and are members of a distinctly different plant family? Pesticides that confuse insect molting cycles seemed like wild ideas at one time, but are now part of my pest control. Who knows what this new product will do? Only time will tell.

WINTER & SPRING AREA AOS JUDGED ORCHID SHOWS

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 Anne Williams or Suzanne Hens.

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	Speaker	Topic
7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Table and Chairs	March 11	Panel Program	Panel Program
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting Announcements			
7:40-8:30	Program	April 8	Linda Thorne Seagrove Orchids Will have plants	TBA
8:30-8:50	Refreshment Break			
8:50-9:20	Show Table Review, Show Table Awards	May 13	Special Event	TBA
9:20-9:30	Raffle			

Welcome Table	Refreshments
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March	TBA	Suzanne Hens
April	TBA	Sue Morand & Creighton Humphries

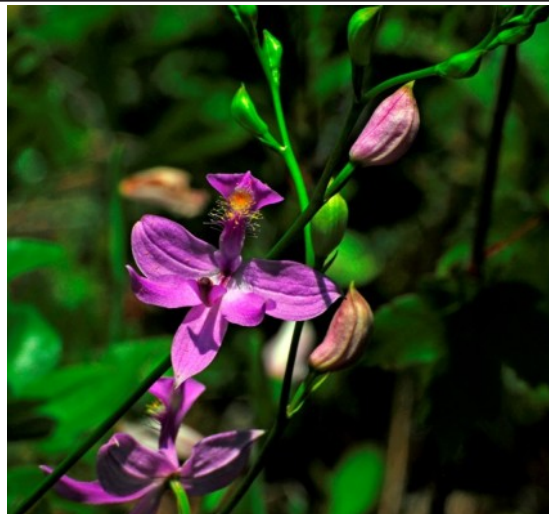


Associated with

Sarah P Duke Gardens

Newsletter Editor
Josh Gurlitz

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

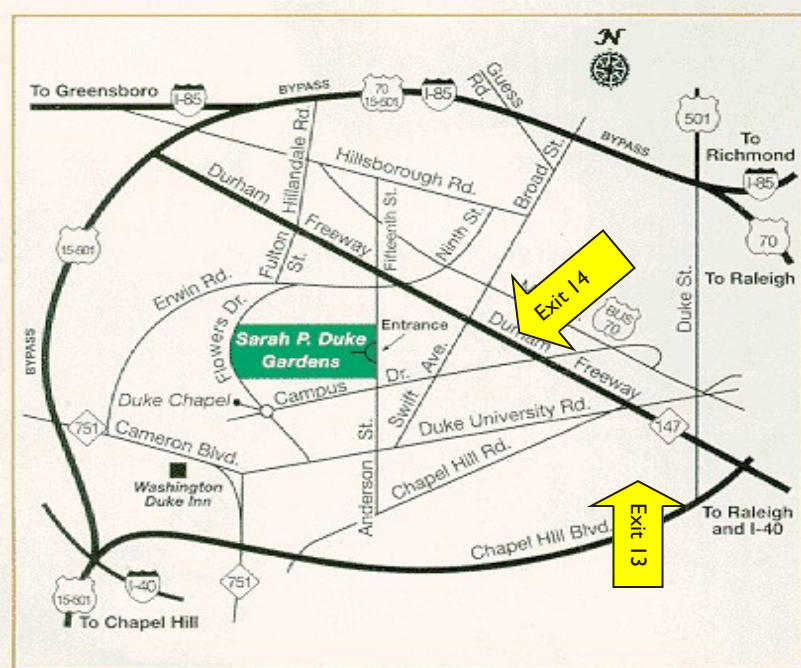


GREEN SWAMP ORCHID WALK

Calopogon 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 will be the first weekend in May. We are checking interest in this outing. If you are interested please see Josh Gurlitz, Paul Welty or Tom Wentworth and let them know.



**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