



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid Society

Associated with
Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Program for May 13, 2013
NOTE NEW TIME & VENUE
For May Meeting
“Orchid Trail Greenhouse”
Flowers-Food-Friendship

We are having a **VERY** special meeting this month. The meeting will take place at **Orchid Trail Greenhouses**, in **Morrisville**, and will include **Greenhouse tours**, a **Bar’B’Que dinner** and a special drawing. See the entire schedule on page 10 inside:

Time: 6:30m PM

Place: Orchid Trail Greenhouses
402 Church Street
Morrisville, NC 27560

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There will be a Bar’B’Que Dinner and Desert at the Orchid Trail Greenhouses for this meeting!!

See Announcements page for your pre-ordered mugs; Green Swamp walk update; TOS exhibit at the Sandhills Orchid Society show.

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 April 8, 2013

Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. Membership Meeting Minutes:

The Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. members met at Sarah P. Duke Gardens in Durham, North Carolina on April 8, 2013. TOS President, Ralph Sears, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Approximately 56 people were present at the meeting. The minutes of the March 11, 2013 membership meeting were approved.

Everyone was encouraged to purchase raffle tickets at \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.00. **Members who bring plants for the Show Tables receive 'buy one get one free' raffle tickets for each plant they bring, up to a maximum of five free tickets!** Ralph encouraged all members to pay their dues and to help grow our membership by asking a friend to visit a meeting or other TOS activity. Dues and plant auctions are TOS' s main source of revenue. Membership in TOS, which includes receipt of the Newsletter for one year, is a great gift for a plant loving friend. A carefully chosen gift plant from one of the TOS auctions could encourage a friend to experiment with growing orchids.

Ralph recognized and thanked John and Ann Myhre for sharing their experiences in a wonderful 'Grower Spotlight' article in the April Newsletter. To share your favorite orchid growing experiences, and photographs, contact us at info@triangleorchidsociety.org to learn how to submit an article. Remember to consult the Newsletter, and mark your calendar for upcoming Triangle Orchid Society activities. TOS has a variety of opportunities for volunteering, learning about orchids, and having fun with people who share your love of orchids!! **New ideas for fundraising, like the new 'TOS Mugs' are always welcome!**

Ralph reminded the everyone that the May Membership Meeting will be held at The Orchid Trail Greenhouses. Details about this special meeting can be found elsewhere in this Newsletter!



Paul Welty, TOS Vice- president, introduced Linda Thorne of Seagrove Orchids as the speaker for the evening. Her talk was entitled ' The Influence of *Phalaenopsis* Species on Modern Hybrids ' .

Following the speaker' s wonderful presentation, there was a short break for refreshments. Thanks were extended to Sue Morand and Creighton Humphries for providing refreshments and drinks for the evening. Please contact Erica Wolfe at info@triangleorchidsociety.org if you can provide refreshments for a future meeting. This is a great opportunity to volunteer with a friend!!

Lee Allgood and Bob Meyer led the show table discussion. They did a marvelous job presenting all the beautiful blooming orchids brought for the Show Tables by the membership. Please feel free to raise your hand if you want to know more about a specific plant, including how the owner cares for it.

The Jack Webster Award Plants were:

Greenhouse grown:

- 1st place for *Brassocatanthe* Robert Randall ' Highland ' grown by Sarah Patterson;
- 2nd place for *Leptotes bicolor* grown by Bob Meyer; and,
- 3rd place for *Renanthera matutina* grown by Alan Miller.

Non -Greenhouse grown:

- 1st place for *Gongora quinquenervis* grown by Nancy Harvey;
- 2nd place for *Dryadella liliputiana* grown by Charles Walker; and,
- 3rd place for *Sedirea japonica*, also 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

Linda Thorne

“ Phalaenopsis Species in Today's Hybrids ”

Documenting the lineage of orchid hybrids is at times somewhat like listing Biblical begats and begots -- the first generation is easy; after that it becomes a whole bunch more complicated. However, Linda took a different approach. She described the characteristics of the species and how they manifest themselves in their progeny. She made it sound so simple – even had us figuring out the makeup of some of the plants she had brought for sale. Not only was that fun, it was a terrific learning exercise.

Probably the most frequently utilized species in modern Phal breeding is *P amabilis*. A native of the Philippines, it will not tolerate nighttime temperatures lower than sixty degrees Fahrenheit. It is the largest-flowered species in the genus. The flowers are round and milky-white, presented attractively on arching, often branching inflorescences. The lip often has yellow or red markings, but can have both colors. It has been used extensively in hybridizing, not only because of its color and form, but also because it will frequently reflower on the same inflorescence. Another very desirable feature of *P amabilis* is that all the flowers on an inflorescence flower at the same time, making a very nice showing. Each inflorescence can have up to 15 flowers, and a mature plant with multiple inflorescences can carry up to seventy to eighty flowers at the same time. One of the best known hybrids derived from *P amabilis* is *P Taisuco Kochdian* which routinely produces flowers that are five and a half inches across.

P amboinensis is the Phal with the concentric rings. A native of Indonesia, it too is a warm grower. There are generally only one or two open flowers on the inflorescent at any time, but each plant may have multiple spikes, each of which will continue to lengthen and produce more sequentially blooming flowers. It is critical not to cut the inflorescence as each one may continue to bloom for up to five years. The flowers are fleshy with either a creamy white or pale yellow background. The barring is brown or red-brown. One of the best known hybrids is *P Deventeriana*, which is a primary cross using *P amabilis* and *P amboinensis*. It is interesting that in this hybrid, the heavy barring or concentric rings are reduced to fine spotting but still generally arranged in concentric rings.

Linda thinks *P venosa* smells like smoked sausage. Others have commented that it just smells **BAD**. Unfortunately, this is a characteristic that it passes to some of its progeny. Another native of Indonesia, *P venosa* is also a sequential bloomer with a lengthening inflorescence. Its flowers are also very fleshy. A small flower, generally only one and three quarter inches across, the flower is actually white to pale olive green in color. It is so saturated with reddish-bronze barring that it appears to be the solid color of the barring. When used in hybridizing, it promotes orange colored blooms, not yellow as one would anticipate. Its column is white, a trait that it passes to its progeny and offspring. A prominent hybrid is *P Kuntrati Rarashati*, a delightful miniature multiflora with equal parts *P venosa* and *P equestris*. It typically has a pale yellow base color, but again the concentration of the barring can be so dense that the flower appears to be solid orange. Another hybrid I particularly like is *P Mary Lilian Taylor*. It is a fleshy miniature with such heavy color saturation that the flower is a solid raspberry red. It is fifty percent *venosa* and thirty percent *amboinensis*.



One of my all-time favorite Phals is *P bellina*. This is the Phal with the bow-legged color saturation in the center of the flower and on the inside of the lateral sepals. A native of Malaysia (and therefore a warm grower), Linda thinks its fragrance is like Fruit Loops. It normally carries only one to two open flowers on a stem. However, new buds continue to develop and replace the old flowers as they age. Typically, the inflorescence is shorter than the leaves, and may even rest on the leaves. One of the classic hybrids is *P Penang Girl*, which is fifty percent *P bellina* and fifty percent *P venosa*. The very appealing fragrance of *P bellina* is passed on to its progeny, as well as the characteristic of long lasting flowers.

P violacea is closely related to *P bellina*. At one time they were considered variations of the same species and differentiated only by the location where they were found. Now, they are recognized as distinct species. *P violacea* has large, shiny, heavy foliage that hangs downward. The leaves may be up to twelve inches in length and often has a soft dimpling on the surface. It is best grown in a basket, with the plant positioned in such a way that water drains off the foliage to avoid crown rot. It is a very slow grower, but such a spectacular flower that it is well worth the wait. The star-shaped flowers are one and a half inches across, bloom sequentially; with rarely more than two open at any time. They are fragrant, a trait passed on to its progeny. A cross, initially made in 1895 is *P Luedde-violacea*, is a great example of what this plant can do.

P shilleriana is one of the most prolific bloomers in this genus. Its three and a half inch flowers display themselves against striped dark green foliage on branching inflorescences. Its most distinctive feature is its lip, which is shaped like an anchor. The lip is often magenta colored, causing it to stand out against the soft rose of the flowers. *P Maki Watanabe* has lost the distinctive lip. It is fifteen percent *P shilleriana* and thirty five percent *P amabilis*.

P philippines is another warm growing, shade loving species from the Philippines. Its two and a half to three and a half inch flowers are white in front, blushed pink on the back. They are full, flat and broad petaled. The fleshy foliage is dark green with silver-grey marking on top and dark purple on the bottom. Finally, *P equestris* is a diminutive little gem, also from the Philippines. Its flowers are only one to one and a half inches across, but it is a profuse bloomer. The flowers are very long lasting, opening two or three at a time over several months. They are generally white with a pink blush or faint stripping. Additionally, the flowers have a very distinctive form in that all sepals and petals are pointed, giving the flower a star shaped appearance. The lip is rose colored with yellow side lobes. A mature plant produces several inflorescences per year. The foliage is bright green, fleshy and drooping. Although *P Donna Sitton* has only eighteen percent *P equestris*, the unmistakable triangular lip remains prominent.

I went to my local Lowe's today and while there I simply had to check out the orchids. They had just received a shipment of the little mini Phals that are proving to be so popular. I looked them all over and concluded, without a shadow of a doubt, that *P equestris* was in the background of each and every one. A fun exercise!! Thanks Linda.

And, thank you to Joy Lemieux for this transcription of Linda's talk.

SPRING AOS JUDGED ORCHID SHOW

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



Triangle Orchid Society, **led by Suzi Hens and Nancy Harvey**, mounted a beautiful exhibit at the Sandhills Orchid Show in Fayetteville, NC. Suzi and Nancy designed, staged and registered the 50 square foot exhibit. Bob Meyer and John Myhre helped with the logistics of moving the orchids and The Orchid Trail provided bench space for assembling the plants and temporary storage. Many members generously loaned blooming plants and many of those plants got recognition..see the following page for ribbons and awards.

Sarah Patterson & Nancy Harvey provided these photographs of the Sandhills Exhibit
Thanks Sarah and Nancy for the photos !

AOS and ribbon winners at the Sandhills 2013 show

Bob Meyer:

Epicyclia Mabel Kanda 'Miyao' x Encyclia randii ---
2nd, 82 point AOS Award of Merit

Paul Feaver:

Den. Betty Goto --- 1st, Best in Class
Den. Sylvia Yuen --- 2nd

Robin and Josh Gurlitz:

Den. Green Surprise 'Windy' --- 1st
C. skinneri var. coerulea --- 2nd

Nancy Harvey:

Phal. Memoria Audrey Meldman 'Mendenhall' --1st
V. tricolor var. suavis --1st, Best in Class
Encyclia bractescens ---3rd

Suzanne Hens:

Phrag. Don Wimber --- 3rd

Sarah Patterson:

Phal. Fancy Free 'Scarlet Spring' --- 2nd
Paph. Song of Love --- 2nd

John Stanton:

Phal. bastianii #1 --- 1st, Best in Class
Phal. bastianii #2 --- 2nd
C. schilleriana --- 1st, Best in Class
Den. dearii --- 2nd

Paul Welty:

Phal. philippinensis --- 2nd

Tom Wiles:

Cattlianthe Jewel Box 'Scheherazade' --- 1st





**Jack Webster Awards
Non-Greenhouse
Grown**

1st Place Ribbon:
Gongora quinquenervis
Grown by Nancy Harvey



2nd Place Ribbon:
Dryadella lilliputiana
Grown by Charles Walker



3d Place Ribbon:
Sedirea japonica
Grown by Charles Walker

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

**Jack Webster
Awards
Greenhouse
Grown**



1st Place Ribbon:

Brassocatanthe Robert Randall 'Highland'
Grown by Sarah Patterson

2^d Place Ribbon:

Leptotes bicolor
Grown by Bob Meyer



3^d Place Ribbon:
Renanthera monachica
Grown by Alan Miller



TOS MEETING, MAY 13, 2013
ORCHID TRAIL GREENHOUSES
6:30 PM
402 CHURCH STREET
MORRISVILLE, NC 27560
919-362-1062

ACTIVITIES:

Orchid Trail Orchid Collection...Greenhouse #7

(Paul Feaver will be in Greenhouse #7 to answer questions about the collection)

Bob Meyer Orchid Collection...Greenhouse #1

(Bob Meyer will be in Greenhouse #1 to answer questions about his collection)

Robin and Josh Gurlitz Orchid Collection...Greenhouse #5

(Josh and Robin will be in Greenhouse #5 to answer questions about their collection)

Sick Plant Advice- Table in front of Greenhouse #1

(Advice desk will be open for discussion..Please do NOT bring sick plants in to the Greenhouses)

Repotting Workshop..Greenhouse #1

(Billy Barnes from Orchid Trail will demonstrate repotting technique)

How to tie up pseudobulbs on cattleyas....Greenhouse #2

(John Stanton will show how this technique is done. This is an old and very good way to shape a cattleya)

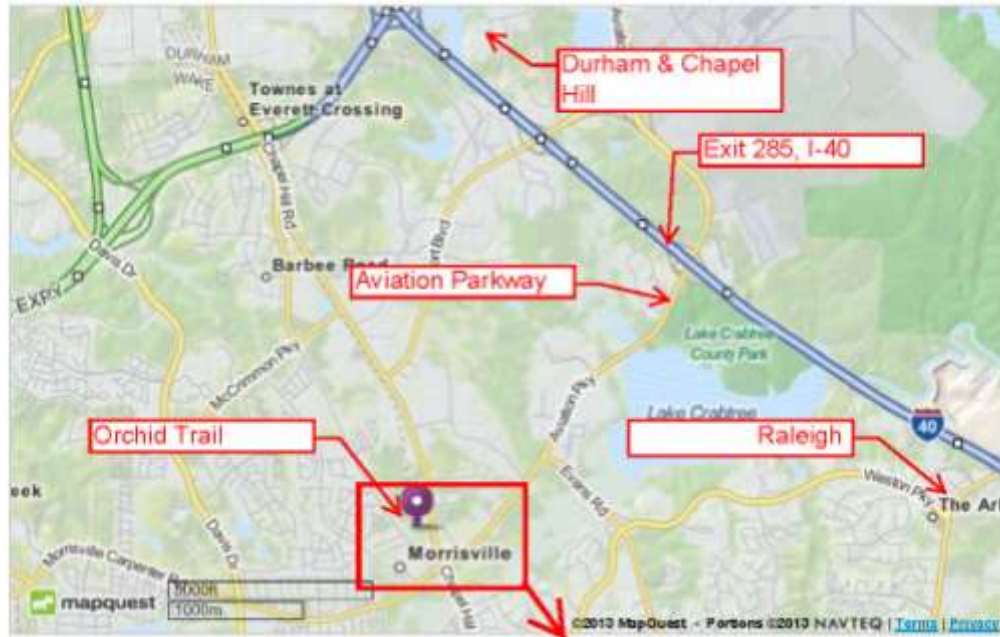
Orchid Trail Sales Greenhouse #2 will also be open

There will be NO show-tables at this meeting
BUT there will be a drawing for one of John's beautiful orchids

Refreshments: There will be a Bar'B'Que dinner and desert

MAP DIRECTIONS TO ORCHID TRAIL

Map of:
402 Church St
Morrisville, NC 27560-9150



From Raleigh:
I-40 West to exit
285
Aviation Parkway
West to Church St.
Right on Church
St. to Orchid Trail

**From Durham
/Chapel Hill:**
I-40 East to exit
285
Aviation Parkway
West to Church St.

**Right on Church
St. to Orchid Trail**

Map of:
402 Church St
Morrisville, NC 27560-9150



MAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARC HACHADOURIAN AT THE TRIAD ORCHID SOCIETY & GREENSBORO AOS JUDGING CENTER

The Carolinas Judging Center and the Triad Orchid Society will have Marc Hachadourian from the NY Botanical Garden presenting programs on May 18 and 19. Marc will be speaking to the Judging Center on Saturday, May 18, at 11:00 on "Judging Specimen Plants." On Sunday, May 19, at 2:00, his topic for Triad OS will be "Cultivating Beauty: A History of the Orchid."

We would like to invite members of the Triangle Orchid Society to attend both of these lectures.

Marc Hachadourian is Manager of the Nolen Greenhouses for Living Collections and Curator of the Orchid Collection at The New York Botanical Garden. He has been part of the botanical garden staff for over 10 years, first as the horticulturist for the orchid collection and now overseeing the state-of-the-art greenhouse complex where many of the display plants and most of the Garden's glasshouse collections are cultivated. Marc is a graduate of Cornell University and holds a degree in Plant Science. With over 20 years of experience in horticulture, he specializes in orchids, aquatics, bulbs, and alpines. An active member of many professional societies, he has a strong interest in the conservation and cultivation of all groups of plants. He oversees the CITES Rescue Center Program which rehabilitates endangered plants working with the US Fish & Wildlife Department. Recently, along with award-winning photographer Jonathan Singer and co-author Dr. W.J. Kress of the Smithsonian Institution, Marc published his first book, *Botanica Magnifica* (Abbeville Press). In addition to participating in orchid research, he contributes his expertise in conservation and cultivation of all types of plants. As an American Orchid Society Judge and Horticultural Educator he has lectured in the U.S. and abroad and is part of the faculty of The New York Botanical Garden School of Professional Horticulture. A published photographer, illustrator, television personality, and now author, Marc has dedicated himself to increasing public awareness about the importance of global plant conservation and the appreciation of plant biodiversity.

Both meetings will be held at the Greensboro Council of Garden Clubs building on the campus of the Natural Science Center, 4301 Lawndale Dr., Greensboro.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE ELEVENTH ORCHID DIGEST SPEAKERS' DAY!! "WONDERFUL WORLD OF ORCHIDS"

Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California
Saturday, June 8, 2013 – 12:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Ahmanson Classroom

FEATURING

All Genera Flower Display – Orchid Sales– Expert Lectures – Dinner
Remember!! AOS judging at 10:00 AM
Open at 11:00AM to bring your blooming plants for the flower display
Prize for best species and best hybrid,

Lecturers: Thomas Miranda (Virginia), Ron Kaufmann (San Diego),
Paul Tuskes(San Diego), Mario Ferrusi (Toronto)
Dinner Speaker: Alec Pridgeon (Florida)

VENDORS: Cal Orchids; Sunset Valley Orchids, Andy's Orchids

Tickets: \$60 (\$75 at door) for afternoon Seminars, Wine and Cheese Happy Hour, Dinner and Evening
Entertainment

Please Contact: Simone Friend, 4349 Dogwood Ave., Seal Beach, CA 90740
Phone: (562) 431-1247 E-mail: orchidsimonef@aol.com

Limited Space!! Make Your Reservations Now!

GREEN SWAMP ORCHID WALK

Our orchid walk in the Green Swamp is scheduled for June 8. Neil Jacobs and Jen Modliszewski will be leading the tour. If you have already signed up we will be contacting you to confirm. Please see, or email, Josh Gurlitz at robing@i-gga.com with any questions or if you want to attend.



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 2013	Speaker	Topic
7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Table and Chairs	May 13 At 6:30 PM At Orchid Trail	Visit a working Orchid Greenhouse	See the notice on page 3 for details!
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting Announcements			
7:40-8:30	Program	June 10	Art Chadwick	Cattleya
8:30-8:50	Refreshment Break			
8:50-9:20	Show Table Review, Show Table Awards	July 8	Tom Kuligowski	Angraecums
9:20-9:30	Raffle			

Welcome Table

Refreshments

May	TBA	Orchid Trail Greenhouses
June	TBA	

Courtney Hackney..Growing Tips for May 2013

Dept. of Biology, Univ. North Florida

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net

May is one of the busiest months for orchid hobbyists. There is still time to repot, fertilize and attend to orchid pests

“Should I repot this orchid?”, is a common question. Repotting is most critical and often hard for new hobbyists because it takes a while to learn how to do it properly and it’s hard to determine if the orchid should be repotted. The tendency is to want to repot, especially when there are roots going everywhere and a growth is at the edge of the pot. Orchids hate to be repotted, so repotting should only be done when absolutely necessary. Just because an orchid is coming out of the pot is not a reason to repot. Some types of orchids, e.g. dendrobiums prefer to be pot bound and go downhill for a year or two when given plenty of space in a new pot.

If you try to push a finger down into your orchid in a bark mix, is it difficult or does the medium yield easily? If it is relatively easy, the medium has degraded and you need to repot. If it is somewhere in between there may be a solution beyond repotting or not repotting. Hold the pot upside down being careful to hold the orchid itself in case the roots are not firmly attached to the pot. Use a jet of water and direct it at the top of the medium. Sometimes most of the degraded medium will flow from the pot leaving a mass of roots with just a few pieces of hard medium. If the roots are white and hard there is no need to remove the orchid. You can add medium, but do not damage roots as you work the new medium into the pot. I like to use puffed clay pebbles, which are round and easily flow into space between the roots without much effort.

If you do this and find mushy roots the orchid needs to be repotted. Remember that the longer the time between repotting, the more strength your orchid gets and the better the flowers will be next time. Roots are the key to good flowers and repotting removes the majority of them.

There are many orchids sold now in sphagnum. This is a soft medium that tends to stay moist. Typically, phalaenopsis are sold in this medium, but I have seen just about every orchid group sold in it. It is rare for sphagnum to last more than a year. If you can easily pull small pieces of medium from the pot when you purchase it, you likely need to repot the orchid as soon as it finishes flowering.

If you have a small collection, apply Nutricote now if you have not already done so. If you use a soluble fertilizer this is the time to be sure you water weakly, weekly. For cattleyas and other orchids with pseudobulbs, once new growths are mature, fertilizing is not as important, but right now, they are in the growth mode. Other genera, such as members of the vandaceous group, phalaenopsis, paphs, phrags and jewel orchids can be fertilized as long as it is warm. My preference is to use a balanced fertilizer with extra calcium and magnesium. Be careful not to use exotic fertilizers unless you know how it will affect the water pH. That is one of the reasons to recommend simple, slow release type fertilizers such as Nutricote.

Insects also respond to warmer conditions and need to be watched carefully. If scale or thrips are discovered treat quickly before they spread. If just a few are found on one plant remove the orchid and use a fine jet of water to remove the problem, being sure the underside of leaves and rhizomes are washed. If possible, isolate the plant for a month or so and watch it carefully. In my greenhouse, the orchid is sprayed thoroughly and the bench where it was found is also drenched in an appropriate pesticide and the entire area watched through the summer. Over time, most of my insect problems have disappeared, so it is rare for the entire collection to be treated.

This is also the time of year when snails and slugs seem to come from nowhere. Actually, they have been there all along, but the cool temperatures limited their activity. Now, instead of just grazing the algae near the bottom of a pot they emerge and munch on new roots and growths. There are many treatments that work well for these pests depending on your growing area and conditions. Some of these are toxic to pets so read labels carefully.



Associated with

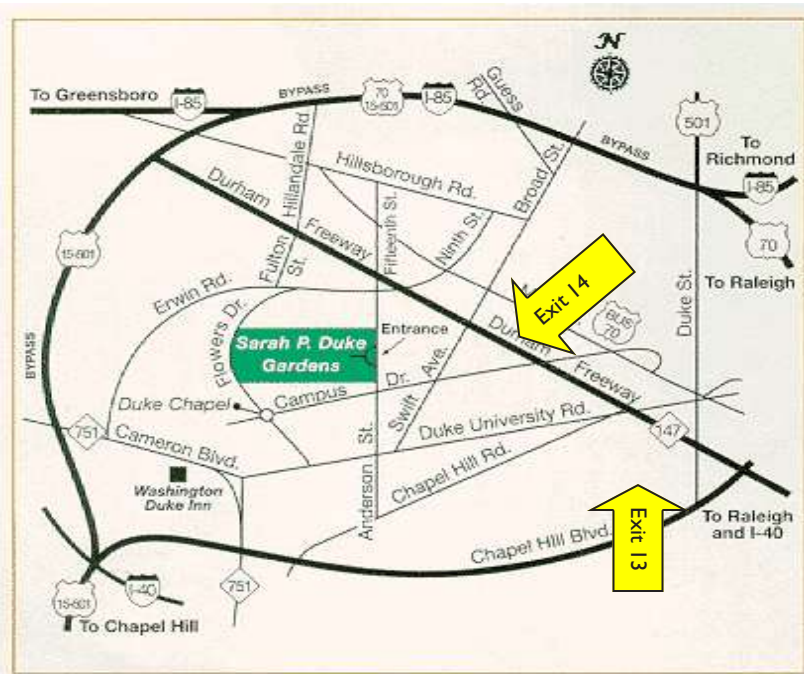
Sarah P Duke Gardens

Newsletter Editor
Josh Gurlitz

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



TOS Raffle Plant for April 2013..what a beauty!!



**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