



The Orchid Society of the Triangle (Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill) and surrounding area of North Carolina
Associated with Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Orchidaceae

Monthly Newsletter of the Triangle Orchid Society

November 2015

November 9, 2015

Harry Gallis will give a surprise, short program that will surely be interesting and entertaining. We'll also learn how to prepare our orchids for the show.

We need your help with the show!

Please check your calendars so you can sign up to volunteer and attend the show. We'll have workshops, vendors, and amazing orchid displays from many societies in NC, VA, and SC. See our web page trianglorchidsociety.org for specifics.

We will be Electing 2016 Officers

The Nominating Committee has proposed:

President, Sidney Cox

Vice President, Harry Gallis

Treasurer, Anne Williams

Secretary, open

2018 Trustee, Ralph Belk, III

2018 Trustee, Axel Elling

Nominations from the floor will be accepted.

We will have a Members' Plant Sale

Please email triangleorchidsociety@gmail.com a couple of days before the meeting if you have more than 10 orchids to sell, so that we can arrange space for you.

Refreshments will be served!

Dinner

5:30 pm - before the meeting at Carrabba's Italian Grill

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

Please contact Alan Miller if you plan on attending the dinner. (919) 969-1612

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The Triangle Orchid Society meets at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens 420 Anderson St. Durham, NC

The Second Monday of the Month
at 7:30 pm

TriangleOrchidSociety.org



TOS Officers and Board Members 2015

OFFICERS

President

Nancy Harvey (919) 401-4533
ntrharvey@gmail.com

Vice President

Program Chairman

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

Secretary

Vacant

Treasurer

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

At Large Trustees: 2015

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

Harry Gallis (919) 564-0007
harry.gallis@frontier.com

At Large Trustees: 2016

Pei-fen Liu (919) 683-3066
peifenliu@earthlink.com

Kelly Nipp (315) 212-3052
klnipp07@gmail.com

At Large Trustees: 2017

Stephen McAllister
tack2west@yahoo.com

Sarah Patterson
sarahncsu@gmail.com

October 12, 2015 Membership Meeting Minutes

The October 12, 2015 membership meeting of the Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Nancy Harvey, TOS President. Approximately 25 people attended the meeting. The minutes of the September 14, 2015 membership meeting were approved. Anne Williams attended the Welcome Table and sold raffle tickets. Everyone was encouraged to purchase raffle tickets at \$1 each, or 6 for \$5.00.

Nancy announced that there will be no Keiki Club meetings in the next couple of months.

Josh Gurlitz announced Triangle Orchid Society nominees for the 2016 officers and board members are as follows:

Past President: Nancy Harvey

President: Sidney Cox

Vice President: Harry Gallis

Secretary: Suzanne Hens

Treasurer: Anne Williams

New Board of Trustees members: Axel Elling and Ralph Belk, III

Nancy and Sidney discussed the upcoming show and asked members to contribute a gift for the raffle. Harry Gallis announced that there were two trophies that are available for sponsorship. Sarah Patterson mentioned the need to stake new spikes early so that the flowers will be oriented in a pleasing manner.

Harry Gallis introduced the webinar from Fred Clarke, who has a boutique orchid nursery called Sunset Valley Orchids. One of his orchid genera specialties is Cattasetums. Fred runs this nursery in his free time.

We thank Josh and Robin Gurlitz for providing refreshments. Also, our appreciation goes to Paul Feaver and Harry Gallis for an informative show table discussion.

The Jack Webster Award Plants were as follows.

Greenhouse Grown:

1st Place: *Dendrochilum magnum* 'Shaun,' grown by Melissa Bullard

2nd Place: *Bulbophyllum medusae*, grown by John Myhre

3rd Place: *Barbosella cogniauxiana* 'Lookamee Daddy,' grown by Harry Gallis

Non-Greenhouse Grown:

1st Place tie: *Aerangis distincta*, grown by Sarah Patterson

1st Place tie: *Gongora fulva*, grown by Crawford A. Willson, III

2nd Place: *Dendrobium rigidum*, grown by Lee Allgood

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm. Meeting minutes were submitted by Suzanne Hens.



October 2015

Jack Webster

Awards

Greenhouse Grown

2nd Place: *Bulbophyllum medusa*,
grown by John Myhre



1st Place: *Dendrochilum magnum* 'Shaun,'
grown by Melissa Bullard



3rd Place: *Barbosella cogniauxiana* 'Lookamee Daddy,'
grown by Harry Gallis



October 2015

**Jack Webster Awards
Non-Greenhouse Grown**

1st Place Tie: *Gongora fulva*,
grown by Crawford A. Wilson, III



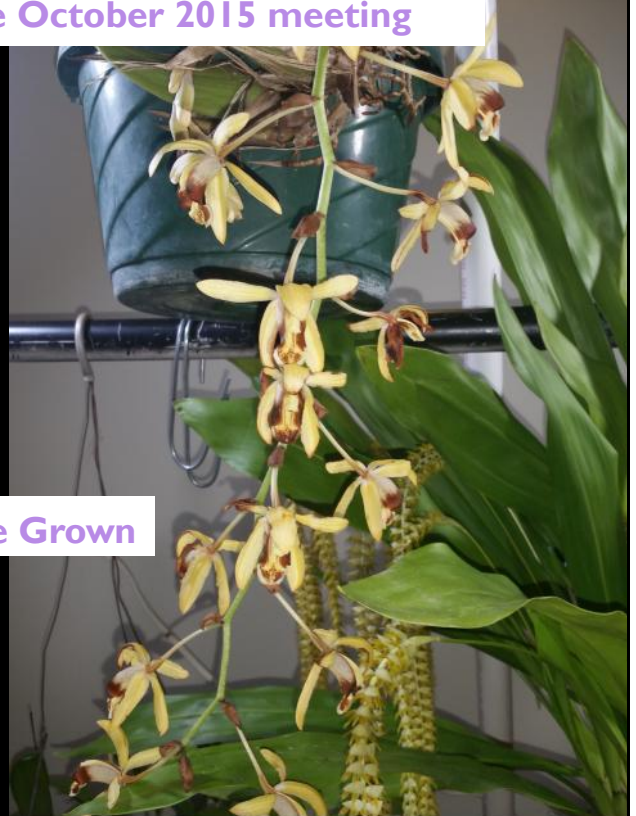
1st Place Tie: *Aerangis distincta*,
grown by Sarah Patterson



2nd Place: *Dendrobium rigidum*
grown by Lee Allgood



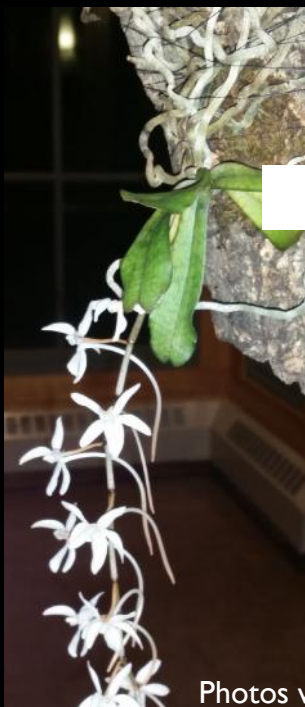
Members' Orchids From the October 2015 meeting



Greenhouse Grown



Non-Greenhouse Grown



Photos were taken with an Android Samsung Galaxy S5 using [A Better Camera App](#).



Fred Clarke

The guide to growing your first *Catasetums*, *Cynoches*, and *Clowesias*

One of the best ways to know how to grow an orchid genus is to understand the conditions under which they grow naturally. *Catasetinae* live where there are two distinct weather patterns—a hot, humid and rainy monsoonal summer followed by a dry cool winter. *Catasetinae* have adapted to these weather conditions by having a growth phase in the summer and in winter a rest period or dormancy where the leaves yellow and drop off. When the plants are dormant, little or no water is needed, as the pseudobulbs store enough moisture and nutrients to survive the dormancy period until summer.

Catasetinae plant culture is not difficult. The plants' vegetative state signals to the grower their changing needs. Interpret the signals and make the appropriate cultural adjustments. Here is what to look for:

Early-Season: *Catasetinae* begin their new growth in early spring. This next sentence is very important. Watering begins after the new growth has well developed new roots of approximately 3" to 5" long. I believe that *Catasetinae* roots deteriorate during dormancy, and in the following year they are not as effective at taking up moisture. This makes the new root system vital in the plants' health. So, wait to water until the new roots are 3" to 5" long.

Mid-Season: This is the growth period, where the plants are rapidly developing their new pseudobulbs, so for the next 3-4 months water like a monsoon. The plants require constant moisture; in most cases irrigation will be needed 2 or 3 times a week. Fertilize with a balanced fertilizer used at ½ strength for each watering. Light levels for *Cattleya* will help insure strong good growth and flowering. This is the time when the fruits of your labor will begin to pay off, as the flowering season will be soon underway.

Late Season: In the late autumn the plants will begin to enter the dormancy phase. The signals of dormancy are the yellowing and browning of the leaves. At this time stop fertilizing and reduce watering by half. When most leaves are yellow/brown and have dropped off, cease watering altogether. A general rule to follow is: by November 15th stop fertilization and reduce watering by half. Then by January 1st most leaves should have yellowed or fallen off. This is the dormant period.

Light levels: *Catasetinae* like light levels comparable to *Cattleyas* and *Vandas* at about 2500-4000 foot candles. This is where a strong shadow will be cast by your hand held 12" above the plant.

Temperatures: Summer days 70 to 95°F, nights 60 to 75°F. Winter days 60 to 75°F, nights 55 to 65°F.

Air movement: *Catasetinae*, like most all orchids, enjoy abundant air movement, so give it.

Repotting and Dividing: This is done as the new growth is just starting to develop and before the new roots start to show (remember, no watering until the roots are well established, 3-5" long). Unlike most orchids, *Catasetums* do well when divided into 2-bulb pieces. Divisions are made by cutting with a sterile tool or by pulling the bulbs apart. I try to keep the size of my plants between 2 and 5 bulbs.

Potting mix and containers: For mature plants a 3:1 mix of fine bark and medium Perlite is needed. For seedlings, it works well to have a 3-inch or smaller pot of New Zealand sphagnum moss with the bottom third filled with Styrofoam peanuts. Plastic pots work great; however, clay pots, baskets, and cork slabs will all work. *Catasetums* don't like to be over-potted. Select a pot size that will allow for 2-3 years of growth.

Insect pests: *Catasetinae* are generally pest-free; however, spider mites are attracted to the soft leaves of these plants. Spider mites are quite small and may be hard to see with the naked eye. They live and feed on the undersides of the leaves. Try using a magnifying glass or try rubbing the underside of the leaf with a tissue and look for them on the tissue. Take care in checking for them as the plants are leafing out and control them with a recom-



mended miticide from your garden center.

Fred Clarke owns and operates Sunset Valley Orchids. He has been growing and hybridizing orchids for over 30 years. His pioneering work with *Catasetum* intergeneric hybrids led to the development of the grex *Fredclarkeara* After Dark, which produced "the blackest flowers ever witnessed." Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region and is a popular speaker.

Fred Clarke
Sunset Valley Orchids
www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com
fred.clarke@worldnet.att.net

From text kindly provided by Fred Clarke to accompany his webinar "Catasetums: Growing and Loving."



Show Table Stands for Hanging Orchids

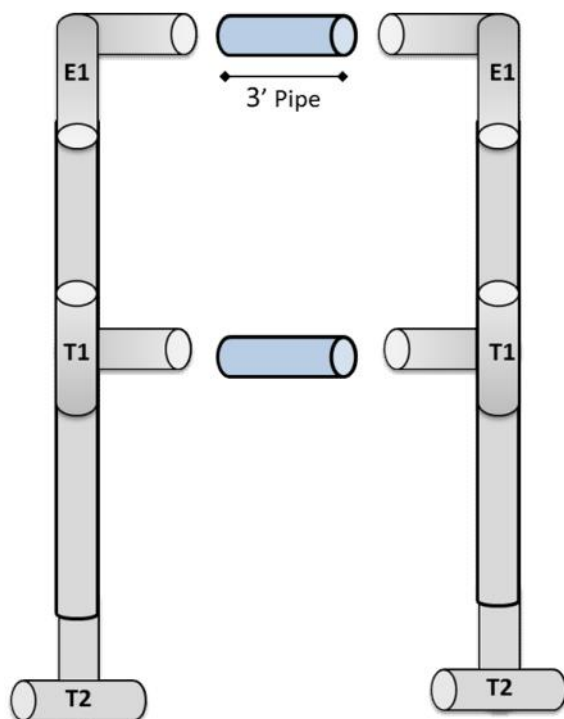
PVC pipe is a versatile, inexpensive material that can be used to make a variety of structures. I recently read in **Orchids** magazine about using it to hang orchids. Some years ago, I also read that you can make a temporary bench for summering your orchids outside. Below, I show the assembly of the stand for displaying the non-greenhouse grown orchids at our monthly show table.

I used a 1/2 inch PVC pipe with elbows and tees. Some pieces are cemented together, while others are connected temporarily for easy disassembly.

In the illustration below, Figure 1, shows elbows, tees, and pipes (gray, cemented) form the vertical sides of the stand. Connecting those two sides with 3-foot horizontal pipes (blue, not cemented) completes the upper part of the stand. In Figure 2, elbows and pipes (green, cemented) are attached to the upper stand by connections to the two gray T2 pieces. Attachment of the 2-foot pieces (blue, not cemented) completes the base of the stand.

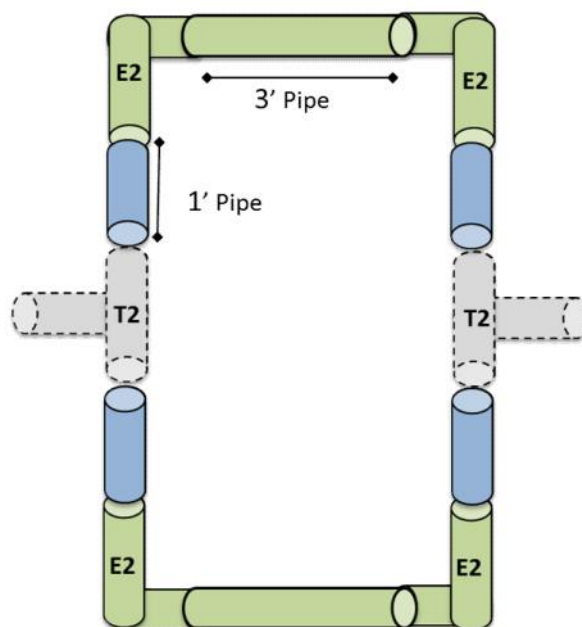
Disassembled, the lightweight stand fits into a long bag. Hooks were also added to hang miniature orchids. A larger stand (not shown) for the greenhouse grown orchids has a pipe that connects the top horizontal pipe to the base for support.

We also improved the show table lighting by using lightweight, bright (1000 lumens) LED lights with true sunlight color (5000K). The illumination with the 5000K light shows the orchids' true colors. Also, LEDs do not emit as much heat as regular bulbs, so they are less likely to burn plants.



Gray: 2 elbows, 4 tees, 4 pipes (cemented)
Blue: 2 pipes (not cemented)

Figure 1: Upper part of stand



Green: 4 elbows, 2 pipes (cemented)
Blue: 4 pipes (not cemented)

Figure 2: Base of stand

Figures not drawn to scale



2015 NC State Fair TOS Exhibit



A special thanks to John Martin for making this a fabulous display!





Enjoy and help make this a success!

FALL for ORCHIDS

November 21-22, 2015

Free Admission:

Saturday, 10am-5pm;

Sunday, 1-4pm.

Sarah P. Duke Gardens

420 Anderson Street,
Durham, North Carolina
(Parking Fees may apply)

An American Orchid Society Judged Show

Enjoy beautiful exhibits with hundreds of blooming orchids.

Informative Speakers and Workshops

Learn how to grow orchids in your home, how to repot the orchid you already own, and get growing advice from experts.

Orchid Plants and Growing Supplies for Sale

Buy an orchid that will grow and thrive in your growing conditions. **Buy tickets for exciting raffle items!**



***Presented by the Triangle Orchid Society
and Sarah P. Duke Gardens.***

**For more information, please visit:
www.triangleorchidsociety.org**





DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
DECEMBER 14	Holiday Potluck and Auction	
JANUARY 11	TBD	TBD
FEBRUARY 8	TBD	TBD

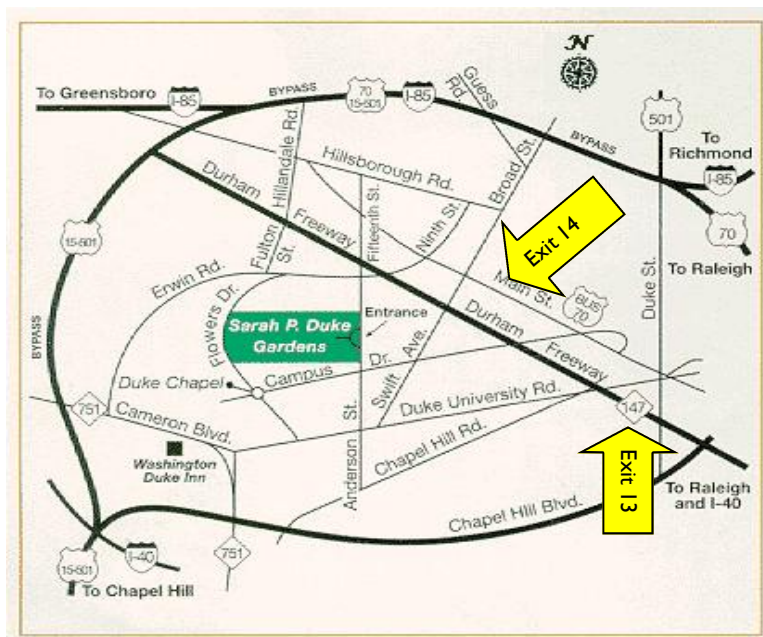
Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:

7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Tables
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting and Announcements
7:40-8:30	Program
8:30-8:50	Break
8:50-9:20	Show Table Reviews and Awards
9:20-9:30	Raffle
9:30 P.M.	Meeting Ends Take down show tables

Welcome Table

Refreshments

DECEMBER	Holiday Potluck	
JANUARY	Axel Elling	See Nancy to volunteer.



From the East:

Durham Freeway (#147) to Exit 13.
Right on Chapel Hill Rd.
Right on Anderson St.
Sarah P. Duke Gardens (420 Anderson) on left.

From the West:

Durham Freeway (#147) to Exit 14.
Right on Swift Ave.
Right on Campus Dr.
Right on Anderson St.
Sarah P. Duke Gardens (420 Anderson) on left.

Newsletter Editor
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E-mail: TOSnewsletter2015@gmail.com

Triangle Orchid Society Dues:

\$22 per year single, or **\$30** per year for two persons living at the same address.

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