



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

August 2016

Courtney Hackney: Orchid Growing Tips August 8, 2016, 7:30 PM



Professor Courtney Hackney is the Director of Coastal Biology at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. He began growing orchids in the Florida Keys in 1962, while working for a small orchid nursery, and he has continued his interest in both orchid hybridizing and orchid culture since then. He grows many different genera, but his favorites are in the Cattleya Alliance. He has about 500 mature cattleyas and even more seedlings, but his favorites are classic clones, some of which appeared in orchid collections over 100 years ago. He makes 8 to 10 hybrids and species sib crosses per year in various genera.

For 20 years, until December 2013, Courtney wrote a "Growing Tips" column that appeared in newsletters around the country, and he has published in *Orchid Digest*. In 2004, he published *American Cattleyas*, the culmination of a decade of study and interviews, which summarizes in old photographs and print how all of the modern cattleyas came to be. The book also describes what we know about cattleyas and cattleya hybrids, how to grow them, and what to expect from modern hybrids.

Courtney and his wife Rose live in Jacksonville, adjacent to a tidal swamp. Rose paints, and Courtney enjoys the *Epidendrum magnoliae* (*conopseum*) growing in the trees in his back yard while he conducts his research in the swamp. His orchids are now enjoying residence in a new 24' x 25' Florida shade house adjacent to the swamp.

Courtney will be selling seedlings! More information at the TOS website.

facebook



www.facebook.com/TriangleOrchidSociety

www.triangleorchidsociety.org

Dinner Before the Meeting

5:30 pm 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.

If you plan to attend the dinner, please contact Allan Miller at (919) 969-1612 to reserve a seat. All are welcome.

Inside this issue:

August Program	1
July Meeting Summary	2
July Meeting: Show Table Awards	3 - 4
Suzanne Hens: Why Orchids?	5
John Stanton: Orchids, National Orchid Shows and Festivals	6
Upcoming Events	7
Meeting Agenda, Future Meetings, Map and Directions to Sarah P. Duke Gardens	8

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



**TOS Officers and
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2016**

OFFICERS

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

Vice President

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

Secretary

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klnipp07@gmail.com

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ntrharvey@gmail.com

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peifenliu@earthlink.com
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axel.elling@gmail.com
Ralph Belk, III
ralph.belk.iii@gmail.com

**Triangle Orchid Society
July 11, 2016 Meeting Summary**

At our July 2016 meeting, John Stanton gave a great presentation on attending national orchid events. He showed amazing photographs from four large orchid events in the U.S. and abroad and discussed the differences among them. This meeting also featured a Member Sale and a Silent Auction. Total attendance was approximately 47 with at least 4 guests present.

Volunteers for this meeting:

Welcome Table: Axel Elling

Raffle: Anne Williams

Lights and Stands: Sidney Cox, Charles Walker, Paul Feaver

Photography: Alan Miller

Others: Nancy Harvey and Sarah Patterson

Show Table Discussions: Harry Gallis and Nick Plummer

The Jack Webster Award Plants:

Greenhouse grown:

1st place (Tie): *Brassolaeliocattleya* Apache Sunrise,
grown by Bob Meyer

1st place (Tie): *Rhynchostylis retusa*,
grown by Nancy Harvey

2nd place: *Catasetum* Bound for Glory,
grown by Ralph Belk

Non-Greenhouse grown:

1st place: *Barkeria* Leo 'Strawberry Solstice',
grown by Sarah Patterson

2nd place: *Lepanthes calodictyon* x *Lepanthes tentaculata*,
grown by Charles Walker

3rd place: *Dendrobium uniforme*,
grown by Charles Walker

Meeting Summary was submitted by Sidney Cox.



July 2016

Jack Webster

Awards

Greenhouse Grown

1st Place (Tie): *Brassolaeliocattleya*

Apache Sunrise, grown by Bob Meyer



1st Place (Tie): *Rhynchostylis retusa*,
grown by Nancy Harvey



2nd Place: *Catasetum* Bound for Glory,
grown by Ralph Belk





July 2016

**Jack Webster Awards
Non-Greenhouse Grown**

1st Place: *Barkeria* Leo 'Strawberry Solstice'
grown by Sarah Patterson



2nd Place: *Lepanthes calodictyon* x
Lepanthes tentaculata,
grown by Charles Walker



3rd Place: *Dendrobium funiforme*,
grown by Charles Walker





Why Orchids?

Suzanne Hens

Orchids are exotic, beautiful, and fascinating and are often an obsession for those who grow them. Orchids are the largest family of flowering plants, and there is evidence that some existed along with the dinosaurs.



There are tens of thousands of orchid species, and can be found all over the world except on glaciers. Orchid plants can be very large, such as vanilla, or very small, less than an inch. Their flowers can be several feet long or as small as a pinhead. Orchids come in all colors, including nearly black. Some can be grown as houseplants, while others need greenhouses or cool houses. There is a unique orchid for everyone.

Unlike many other flowering plants, orchids need ways to transfer their waxy pollen. They attract many types of pollinators, such as bees, flies, gnats, and moths, and they do this with their scent, color, or patterning or with mimicry. Some that attract moths are wonderfully fragrant, while some that attract flies smell like carrion.

You can successfully grow and flower orchids once you know their environmental needs. Some orchids grow on trees (epiphytes) or rocks (lithophytes), while others grow on the floor of woodland forests (terrestrials). Each type needs a culture that mimics its natural environment. For example, Phalaenopsis orchids are epiphytes, with their roots exposed to the air. They dry off after a rain, so their roots will rot if potted in soil or left sitting in water. There are many orchid books that explain the type of culture each genus needs. Once you have this knowledge in hand, you'll find that orchids are very forgiving, and you'll be in awe when they are growing well and flowering.





Orchids, National Orchid Shows and Festivals

John Stanton, July 11, 2016

John pointed out that the internet and mass marketing of *Phalaenopsis* have changed the orchid world. Mass marketing has introduced orchids to the general public, while the internet has been a valuable source of knowledge of cultural needs and answers to problems. Orchids are still exotic, even though they are found in grocery and hardware stores.

However, John noted that once you learn more about orchids you'll find that they are an adventure. They are not just rare exotic plants. They are a study. They have a history. You are working on a living things.

Previously, hard-to-find species and hybrids are now becoming available, and John is very excited that he has a chance to grow some of these. National and foreign vendors now have widely expanding inventories. Be adventurous, TRY new orchids. Trial and error does work.

Learn about orchids by attending orchid shows and festivals as well as your local society meetings. John spoke about several orchid shows, including those in San Francisco, Santa Barbara, and Chicago... and our local TOS orchid show in November (see page 7). His photographs were fabulous and awe-inspiring. At these shows, you'll find beautiful displays by orchid societies, vendors and individuals. It's interesting to see how the designs of the displays echo the show's theme.

Orchid festivals are vendor shows that can be a bonanza for your collection. One of the largest is the Redlands Orchid Festival in Homestead, Florida, where more than 60 vendors from around the world gather to provide orchids for sale. John told us of a friend who withdrew money from ATMs repeatedly over several days while at Redlands and kept spending it all on orchids. This friend had a very bad case of orchid fever!

Not only do orchids bring passion to those who grow them, they also can be symbolic of drama, excess and opulence. *The Big Sleep*, a movie produced in 1946 starring Humphrey Bogart as Philip Marlowe, used orchids to symbolize of the excessive opulence of Los Angeles in the 1930s. An excerpt:

General Sternwood: Do you like orchids?

Philip Marlowe: Not particularly.

General Sternwood: Ugh. Nasty things. Their flesh is too much like the flesh of men, and their perfume has the rotten sweetness of corruption.

Marlowe describes an orchid greenhouse with thick, hot, moisture-laden air and condensation dripping down the walls. Those who grow orchids know that this is not an ideal orchid environment; the air should be buoyant with moisture and have a gentle breeze. In the 1931 movie *The Black Camel*, the orchid symbolizes passion in a negative way: the murder weapon was made from an orchid corsage pin.

No matter how orchids are symbolized, they do depict mystery and drama.



Upcoming Orchid Events

August 20

Carolinas Judging Center

Greensboro Council of Garden Clubs building

4301 Lawndale Dr., Greensboro, NC

Plants to be judged are accepted only during 10:30 - 12:30

September 10

TOS Fall Auction

Beech Shelter, Lake Crabtree Park

1400 Aviation Pkwy, Morrisville, NC

November 12 – 13

Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium

Holiday Inn Patriot, 3032 Richmond Road, Williamsburg, VA

November 18 – 20

2nd Annual Triangle Orchid Society Show

Doris Duke Center at Sarah P. Duke Gardens

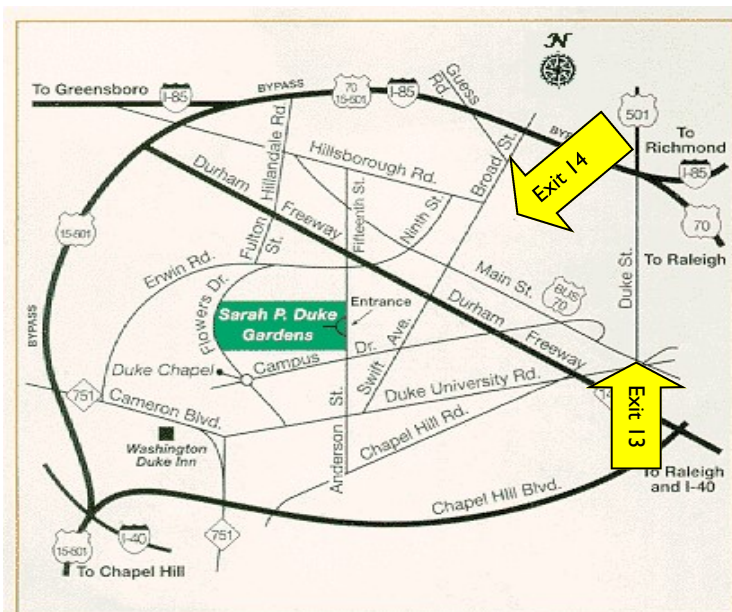
420 Anderson Dr., Durham, NC



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	Speaker's talk
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

DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
SEPTEMBER 12	Steven Frowine	Growing Orchids without a Greenhouse.
OCTOBER 10	Art Chadwick	Cattleyas
NOVEMBER 14	TBD	TBD



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
Suzanne Hens
Phone: (919) 452-5545
E-mail: TOSnewsletter2015@gmail.com

Thank You
Charles Walker
for proofreading the newsletter.

2016 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